











Nantucket Historical Association

INCORPORATED JULY 9, 1894.

Vol. 2

Bulletin No. 1.

Nantucket Lands and  
Land Owners

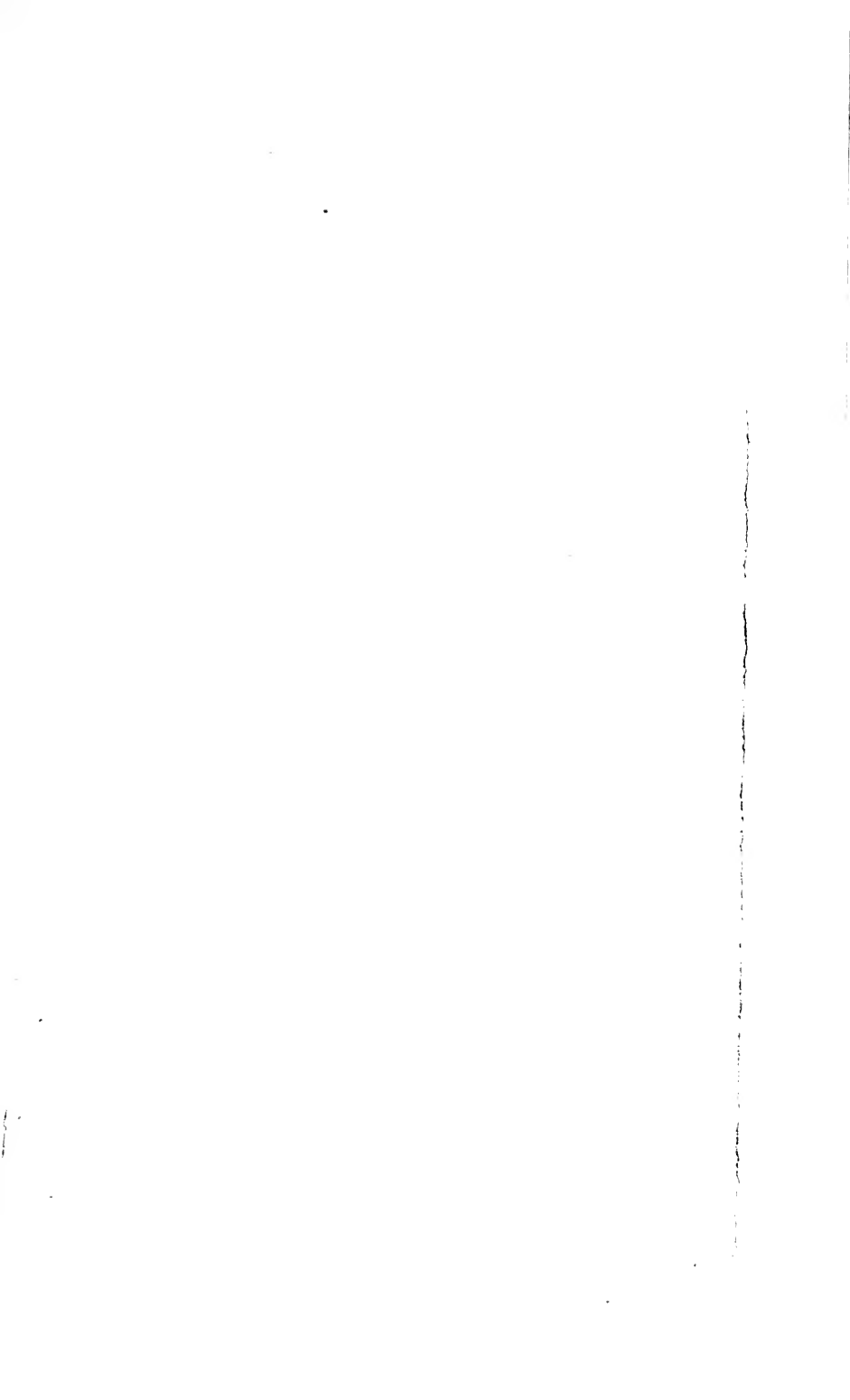
.....BY.....

HENRY BARNARD WORTH.

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PUBLISHED BY  
NANTUCKET HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION,  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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This work will comprise a series of chapters which will treat in topical form the history of Nantucket as found in the public records. Fortunately the recorded transactions of the first settlers have been well preserved, the only book that is missing being that which Peter Folger was accused of concealing. In Books 1, 2 and 3 in the Registry of Deeds are contained records of deeds, court proceedings, set-offs of land, elections, and settlements of estates of deceased persons. As soon as the different departments of public service became distinct from the Land Office, these records were kept in separate books. The records of the town were begun in 1699; the probate records in 1706; the proprietors in 1716, and the court in 1720; and after these dates the records of these departments were kept in separate books. The historical matter found in these three books is the basis of this work. Material has also been obtained from the State House in Albany and Boston and the Registry of Deeds in Edgartown.

The plan adopted at first was to insert copies of all documents, but as these would be of value to only a few and as they are being printed, it was decided to give the substance only and file the copies in the rooms of the Historical Association at Nantucket.

From 1660 to 1692 Nantucket was a part of New York colony, and all public documents were recorded in New York city, and in 1795 transferred to the new capital at Albany. These papers are being printed by the State Historian, the last volume including the year 1675.

After 1692 all such papers were sent to Boston. The State of Massachusetts has taken no steps toward the publication of the early documents.

There has never been any History of Nantucket based on its records. Macy's History was written in 1835, and it is clear that he was ignorant of the rich mass of historical data within his reach at Nantucket and Edgartown. He stated that "greatly to his mortification, there is very little on record and few documents relating to much of the time embraced within the limits of this book," and that the early settlers "were so illiterate that the little of their writings that have come down to us is hardly legible or intelligible." Thus he dismissed the records because he could not read them, although they were as easy to read as Gov. Winthrop's Diary or William Bradford's History of Plymouth, when the system of penmanship is understood.

It is proposed to print chapters of this work as fast as expedient, in such form that they may be finally bound in one volume with an index. Three chapters are printed in this section. The next will be a history of the Nantucket Indians, which will describe the relations of the White and Red men, and the efforts of the latter to recover their lands. A chapter will be devoted to the early courts and an index of the cases that were decided. The first settlers and their families will be described and an attempt will be made to indicate in which part of the island they resided.

Obed Macy says "they did not require much formality in their government." This is far from the fact, and the early government will be shown.

The land tenure of Nantucket will be explained and the famous Sheep Commons.

Thus the substance of the early records will be made accessible.

HENRY B. WORTH.

*New Bedford, Aug. 19, 1901.*

## CHAPTER I.

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### *Securing the Title of the English King.*

The historian states that Thomas Mayhew became the first Colonial purchaser of the islands south of Cape Cod in October of 1641; his deed, as will hereafter appear, was based upon a grant from the King of England.

At that time the occupants of these islands were tribes of North American Indians. Some arrangement had to be made with them by purchase before he could occupy their territory; thus at the outset he found two sources of title.

1. From the English government, that claimed these islands by right of discovery.

2. From the Indians, whose right was in possession.

The right by discovery, which was the foundation of the English claim, was based on the voyage of Cabot, who in 1497 sailed along the Atlantic coast from Florida to Labrador; but mere discovery carries no right unless the new territory is settled and occupied; if the nation claiming this right, after a reasonable time fails to take possession, the right lapses and any other nation has a right to settle the newly discovered land.

For some reason there was no activity in England in taking possession of the new world; over a century after Cabot's voyage England made no permanent settlement; other nations were taking advantage of the opportunity. Spain occupied Florida in 1525; a few years later France had established the colony of New France along the St.

Lawrence; and in 1607 Holland had a colony along the Hudson River. Something had to be done at once; men must be induced to procure homes across the Atlantic. In 1607, John Smith with a band of adventurers located at Jamestown, Va., and the same year Mason and Georges took possession of the country near the Kennebec River. But there was still no disposition to go to America in large numbers. It became necessary to make some arrangement that suitable numbers might be induced to form a colony in America. For this purpose the King created a corporation called "The Council for New England." It was established in Plymouth, in Devonshire, and was usually called the Plymouth Company. Its charter was dated November 23, 1621, and immediately the King granted to this company all territory in America not already settled between the parallels of 40 and 50 of north latitude. This grant included the islands south of Cape Cod.

The officers and agents of this company could now proceed to sell sections of the new country and could fit out vessels for transportation, and could more readily secure the formation of Colonial settlements than when the title was in the King. The charter for the Colony of Plymouth came from this company.

But instead of working satisfactorily, the Plymouth Company failed of success, and in 1635 Charles the First terminated its existence by dissolution. The last act of the corporation, taken at the King's request, was a grant to William, Earl of Sterling, of that portion of Maine lying east of the Kennebec River, and also Long Island and the islands adjacent. It is not clear whether this last phrase was intended to include Block Island alone or all the islands to the eastward; maps of that day gave only imperfect information, and no accurate idea of any locality could be obtained; but frequently the subsequent acts of

the parties explained the intention. Judged by this test, there is no doubt that the islands south of Cape Cod were included in this grant.

Lord Sterling appointed James Forrett as his agent for the purpose of selling and disposing of the islands between Cape Cod and the Hudson River. Forrett came to New York in April, 1637. His efforts were first directed to procuring purchasers for different sections of Long Island, and it was four years after his arrival before he found a customer for Marthas Vineyard and Nantucket.

It October, 1641, he conveyed all the islands south of Cape Cod to Thomas Mayhew of Watertown in Massachusetts Bay.

The deed of Nantucket and adjacent islands is dated October 13th, while that of Marthas Vineyard and Elizabeth Islands is dated ten days later.

This conveyance, however, granted only the right to use the surface of the land. This was because in those days no grants were made of rights under the surface, the King reserved to himself all mines.

Shortly after Mayhew had taken the Forrett deed he learned that Sir Ferdinand Georges, the Governor of Maine, claimed jurisdiction over these islands. This authority was contained in a commission from Charles the First, dated July 23, 1637, in which Georges was appointed Governor of Maine. The provision seems to have been intended merely as giving Georges the authority to settle controversies between colonists who might set up conflicting claims to land. It never could have meant that Georges had the right to sell, but when the formidable document was shown to Mayhew he became convinced that the authority claimed by Georges was well founded and concluded to recognize the same so far as to obtain a deed.

This deed does not mention Nantucket. Whether this

was an omission or intentional cannot be understood. There was never any deed of Nantucket from Georges.

Under the Forrett deed Mayhew was to pay an annual tax, to be determined by Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts Bay. In the second deed he agreed to pay an annual tax to Georges. This was the foundation of serious annoyance to Mayhew, which was not settled until the issuing of the Lovelace patents in 1671. The following is the authority of Georges :

\* \* \* "It is our will and pleasure that none be permitted to go into any of those parts to plant or inhabit but that they acquaint our said Governor thereunto or such other as shall be deputed for that purpose during his abode here in England, and who are to receive from him or them allowance to pass with his or their further direction where to sit down most for their particular commodities and public gaol of our service.

"Hereby strictly charging and commanding all our officers and others to whom it shall or may appertain to take notice of this our pleasure and to be careful the same be firmly observed as they or any of them shall answer the same at their uttermost peril."

But in this situation Mayhew had a title not clear even to himself. He had agreed to pay taxes, therein called an acknowledgment, both to Stirling and Georges. The question was whether these islands belonged to New York or Maine. When Lovelace became Governor of New York, Mayhew exhibited his title deeds and the Governor "stumbled much."

Mayhew's deed to the first twenty purchasers was dated July 2, 1659, and after that the Nantucket owners seem to have repudiated the claim of Georges and paid their acknowledgment to the New York Governor.



In 1664 the English took New Netherlands and changed the name to New York. The English King made a grant of considerable territory in the New World to his brother, the Duke of York, in which were included "The several small islands called or known by the name of Nantukes or Nantucket."

The Duke of York then appointed Francis Lovelace Governor of New York and its dependencies. Lovelace reached New York in May, 1670, and at once set about investigating the claims of the different English colonists. Much controversy had arisen in different parts of Long Island over deeds given by Forrett, and it was also known that Georges had set up a claim to some parts of New England. It was consequently decided that the best method would be to notify the principal men of all New England settlements concerning which there was any question to produce their title deeds and prove their claims to the land which they occupied. Notice was issued that all persons claiming land on Nantucket appear before the Governor at New York within four months from May 16, 1670, and prove their titles. Although the notice was received by the Nantucket inhabitants, they seem to have paid no attention to it until May, 1671, when Tristram Coffin and Thomas Macy were appointed to act for the Nantucket owners. They proceeded to New York and their mission resulted in a new patent from Lovelace of both Nantucket and Tuckannuckett, dated June 28, 1671, confirming what had already been done by Forrett.

This conveyance was to Tristram Coffin and Thomas Macy as patentees for and on behalf of themselves and their associates, inhabitants of Nantucket. Under this Nantucket was created an enfranchised township, manor, and place, independent of every other town. The consideration was four barrels of merchantable codfish, to be delivered in New York annually. This conveyance ex-

pressly provided that only so much was granted as the inhabitants had purchased from the Indians. The order of procedure must be—

1. The English should purchase certain lands from the Indians.

2. Then the English crown would ratify and confirm the purchases.

The town was named Sherburne.

Thus were the rights of the Indians protected by the representative of the English government.

With the Lovelace patent came instructions as to courts both for the English and the Indians. They will be important in the controversy that took place a few years later between half-share and whole-share men, called the Insurrection.

In July, 1673, the Dutch took possession of New York and held it until October, 1674, when it was surrendered to the English.

The King was advised that the Dutch capture of New York divested the title from the Duke of York, and that a new grant would be necessary. This was made in July, 1674.

After the surrender of New York to the English, Nantucket became a part of that province. For some reason it was considered desirable to obtain a new patent; probably this was thought necessary as the Nantucket land owners desired to have confirmed purchases which they had made from the Indians after the date of the Lovelace patent.

Then followed the Dongan patent of 1684. In this patent appears what was the policy of England in those days, to except from the grant royal mines, drift whales and wrecks. It granted only the territory of which they had made purchase from the Indians.

When John Swain in August, 1686, had bought out

all of the Indian claim to Quaise Point, he had to obtain a grant of confirmation. He had to pay annually one bushel of wheat.

On account of the inconvenience of obtaining a confirmation of purchases made from the Indians, it was concluded best to obtain a general grant of the entire island, which was the Dongan patent, dated June 27, 1687. This patent is very elaborate and lengthy, and as it can be found at the Registry of Deeds at Nantucket and in the Genealogy of the Macy family, it is omitted from this book.

It established John Gardner, James Coffin, William Gayer, Peter Coffin, Nathaniel Barnard, Stephen Hussey and John Macy a body corporate called the Trustees of the Freeholders of the Town of Sherburne. This corporation was granted liberty to purchase land from the Indian proprietors and confirm unto all persons having land on the island their title thereto. The annual tax was one lamb or two shillings, to be paid March 20 at New York. This corporation is the modern proprietary that has had a continued existence ever since that date.

An act of Parliament in 1692 transferred all the islands which Thomas Mayhew purchased in 1641 to the province of Massachusetts Province.

This transfer was objected to by the Mayhews, but the Nantucket inhabitants seem to have favored it.

Matthew Mayhew with his sheriff visited Nantucket and threatened dire calamities on the Nantucket inhabitants, and particularly on Captain John Gardner, on account of the transfer. But when Matthew Mayhew went to New York in August he received little satisfaction, for the New York Governor could not abrogate an act of Parliament.

The General Court of the Province of Massachusetts, May 31, 1693, enacted a law confirming all titles on Nan-

tucket that were based on grants from the Governors of New York Colony.

Thus it required over half a century to settle and establish the titles from the English crown.

Dongan's 1687 patent is the basis of all titles on Nantucket. It is the only original Document from an English Governor that has been preserved and is in the Registry of Deeds at Nantucket.

## CHAPTER II.

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### *The Nantucket Insurrection.*

This title is given by the Historian of the State of New York to a controversy that took place among the inhabitants of Nantucket between 1673 and 1680. The two factions were nearly equal. One was under the leadership of Tristram Coffin and the other of Captain John Gardner. On account of intermarriage between the early settlers the hostility was substantially between the Coffin and Gardner families. The animosity that was the origin of the strife cannot be determined, but unquestionably the source lay in the temperaments of the two leaders.

Tristram Coffin exhibited great enterprise in gathering together the company of settlers, and his family of five sons and two daughters, with their husbands and wives, formed a considerable part of the first twenty purchasers. He was naturally a leader, and during the first ten years of the island's history was prominent in affairs. It cannot be said that he was popular. He governed by force rather than by persuasion. About the year 1672 he showed irritability of temper by objecting to the voice of the majority and dissenting therefrom, and not satisfied with this dissent, he required that it be entered on the record, "Mr. Coffin enters his dissent." He preferred to rule rather than serve, and when Captain John Gardner was gaining in popularity it was a source of consternation to the old Puritan, and in his efforts to retain control of the government he resorted to extreme and revengeful measures.

Captain John Gardner was a mariner and lived in Salem, Massachusetts Bay. His brother Richard was in Nantucket in 1665 and was given a house lot. In 1672 the inhabitants invited Captain Gardner to settle on the island "to set up the trade of fishing for the taking of codfish." and that he should stay on the island at least three years. For this he was granted half a share of land. Then he purchased the half share of Nathaniel Holland on which the latter had built a house.

If this was the house in which Gardner afterwards lived, it was located at North shore near the house of the late Charles O'Connor.

Richard Gardner came to Nantucket in 1665 as a seaman and became a landowner. In 1673 a grant of irregular shape was made to him comprising the land surrounding the Lily Pond, then called Wesco Pond. His house was on Sunset Hill, just west from the Coffin house.

Peter Folger was the son of John Folger, and came to this country with Rev. Hugh Peters and afterward married Mary Morrill, a servant in Peters' family. Peter Folger settled at Marthas Vineyard and became very proficient in the Indian language and also learned the arts of miller and blacksmith. When Thomas Mayhew transferred Nantucket to the first twenty inhabitants, it was arranged that Peter Folger should accompany them and assist in managing the Indians. A half share of land was granted him providing he would assist the inhabitants as interpreter, miller and blacksmith. His son Eleazer was given a half share of land providing he would pursue the industries of blacksmith and shoemaker. Folger's mother having died about 1663, he sold his lands at Marthas Vineyard and removed to Nantucket.

Peter Folger was a surveyor and a preacher. His grandson, Benjamin Franklin, thought that Folger came from Holland.

The natural abilities of the Gardner brothers and Peter Folger and their acquirements very soon enabled them to become persons of great importance. It was true they were tradesmen and possessed only one half as great a share of land as the first twenty purchasers, yet there was great demand for the service which they could render. In managing the Indians Peter Folger seems to have been without an equal. John Gardner, also, was held in high esteem among them, and as long as he and Folger were able to advise the Englishmen there was no conflict. Richard Gardner appears to have been a man of considerable education and was many times Chief Magistrate and Assistant.

The Gardner brothers and Folger had qualities that made them popular. Captain John had evidently not received much school education, but he seems to have been a man of physical courage and rugged honesty that gained for him public confidence. After the death of Peter Folger he was the protector of the Indians. During the thirty years of his residence at Nantucket for only a few years was he out of office. He was Chief Magistrate, Selectman, Treasurer, and Deputy to New York. Twice travelling Quaker preachers visited Nantucket, once in 1680 and again in 1704. He forcibly objected to the new sect and protested against their establishment on the island.

These three men seemed to affiliate naturally, being of democratic views, while Tristram Coffin was inclined to be despotic.

Under such circumstances it was inevitable that men of strong personality like Tristram Coffin and John Gardner should ultimately come in conflict. Coffin would not tamely submit to the increase of popularity of John Gardner, and it was not likely that Gardner would retire in order that Coffin might retain the power and authority that were first accorded to him.

It was an annoyance to Coffin to see the favor shown to Captain Gardner. The town granted him twenty acres from his house toward the cliff and widened the road that passed by his warehouse to the landing place. Under the new system of courts the people elected two men, one of whom the Governor of New York appointed Chief Magistrate. The first election took place in the spring of 1673 and Richard Gardner and Edward Starbuck were elected. The Governor selected the former and at the same time appointed John Gardner chief military officer.

The Gardners decided to engage in the fishing business and for some reason concluded to procure a license from the Colonial Governor. They were authorized to conduct the fishing business and to buy land on the shore from the Indians. In the same letter came the commissions of Richard Gardner as Chief Magistrate and John Gardner as Captain of the Foot Company then within the islands of Nantucket and Tuckannuckett. This was in April, 1673.

In July, 1673, the Dutch captured New York, and for several months matters of government were in confusion. In October, 1674, New York was surrendered to the English.

The following transactions at meetings of the inhabitants are copied from the records :

March 8, 1674-75.

The town did vote that the letter drawn up to be sent to the Governour of New York, shall be forthwith sent.

To this vote

John Swayn enters his decent.  
 Mr. Tristram Coffin enters his decent.  
 Nathaniel Barnard enters his decent.  
 John Coffin enters his decent.  
 Richard Swayne enters his decent.  
 Steven Coffin enters his decent.



March 13, 74-75.

The town did vote that Peter ffoulger should go to New York with Captine Garnder to assist him in any business that he is sent about by the Town, to the Governour.

To this vote of the town

John Swayn enters his decent.

Mr. Tristram Coffin enters his decent.

Steven Coffin enters his decent.

Nathaniel Barnard enters his decent.

Richard Swayn enters his decent.

John Coffin enters his decent.

August 4, 1674.

The Town did vote to send a man to the Governour of new-York with the next Covenant season, to petition the Governour about what may Infring the Libertys of the Chartar.

Capt. John Gardner is Choson by the Town to go new-Yorke about the aforesayd busines.

Mr. Tristram Coffin enters his decent.

John Swayn enters his descent.

Nathaniel Starbuck enters his decent.

Richard Swayn enters his decent.

John Coffin enters his decent.

Nathaniel Barnard enters his decent.

Steven Coffin enters his decent.

Nathaniel Wier enters his decent.

The above were the first indications of the conflict. The attack of the Coffin party was against John Gardner. Apparently Coffin was afraid that Gardner might secure some advantage while the government was in the disturbed condition at New York.

The Lovelace patent was dated in June, 1671, and ran to Gardner and Coffin and their associates.

The Gardner party asserted that all men who owned land on Nantucket were to be considered equal in ownership, and that in deliberations and votes all men should have the same voice whether their ownership were small or large and that a man who owned a whole share should have no larger vote than one who owned less. This was in direct antagonism to the view held by the Coffin party. They claimed that the landowner who owned one share should have two votes while a man owning half a share should have but one, and that votes should depend upon the amount of ownership.

Owing to the way in which the land-owners or freeholders were divided, the adherents of the Gardner view were slightly in majority. As near as can be ascertained the following lists indicate substantially the followers of both parties :

*Gardner Party.*

John Gardner,  
 Richard Gardner,  
 Peter Folger,  
 Edward Starbuck,  
 Thomas Macy,  
 William Worth,  
 William Bunker,  
 Thomas Coleman,  
 Joseph Coleman,  
 Joseph Gardner,  
 Samuel Streeter,  
 John Rolf,  
 John Coleman,  
 Nathaniel Wyer,  
 Eleazur Folger.

*Coffin Party.*

Thomas Mayhew,  
 Tristram Coffin,  
 Robert Pike,  
 Tristram Coffin, Jr.,  
 Richard Swaine,  
 Stephen Greenleaf,  
 Christopher Hussey,  
 James Coffin,  
 Nathaniel Starbuck,  
 John Swaine,  
 John Coffin,  
 John Bishop,  
 Nathaniel Barnard.

Peter Folger's son Eleazur had married Richard Gardner's daughter Sarah.

Edward Starbuck might have been expected to affiliate with Tristram Coffin, for his son Nathaniel married Mary the daughter of Tristram. It is not clear why Thomas Macy should associate with John Gardner rather than Coffin, but William Worth married his daughter Sarah; William Bunker his daughter Mary, and Joseph Gardner, son of Richard, his daughter Bethiah. His affiliation may be explained by the intermarriage of these families. At the same time this will not explain all associations for Peter Coffin married Edward Starbuck's daughter.

The others of the Gardner party being half-share men, might be expected to stand together. Macy and Starbuck alone owned an entire share of land.

Thomas Mayhew lived at Edgartown and was called "Governor," for he was appointed to that office for life. It is said that his motive in buying these islands was to Christianize the Indians. But this will hardly explain his actions. The fact probably is that primarily he wanted a place where he could rule and govern and establish a manor. He was a born aristocrat and hated anybody who advocated rule by the people. The only practical aristocracy was that connected with land ownership. Tristram Coffin held exactly the same view. Tristram, James and John Coffin were sons of Tristram, and Stephen Greenleaf married his daughter Elizabeth and Nathaniel Starbuck his daughter Mary.

Robert Pike never lived at Nantucket, but remained in Salisbury. Christopher Hussey lived and died in Hampton, N. H.

There seems to be no reason why the Swains should act with one party instead of the other.

John Bishop afterwards sold his land to Peter Coffin and moved to Woodbride, N. J. The Coffin party were all full share men.

Nathaniel Barnard inherited the two shares of land

owned by his father Robert and uncle Thomas and was the wealthiest man on the island when he died, his estate being valued at over £3000. He was likely to move with the aristocratic party. The wealth, tone and influence were with the Coffin faction. The others represented the poorer, working class, composed mostly of mechanics.

Before proceeding with the events of the controversy it will be well to examine the merits of the case. John Gardner thus states his argument.

Governor Lovelace ordered all persons at Nantucket in May, 1670, to appear before him within four months and exhibit the evidence of their title or else their claims to land should be thereafter void. The landowners at Nantucket received notice, but about a year afterward presented their evidence. No recognition was expressed by the Governor of the old deeds from Lord Stirling. But Lovelace issued a new patent dated June 21, 1671, to Coffin and Macy for a confirmation unto the inhabitants, freeholders and purchasers in their possession and enjoyment. April, 1673, the same Governor in some instructions given the inhabitants, stated "that all ancient and obsolete deeds, grants, writings or conveyances upon said island shall be esteemed of noe force or validity, but the records of every one's claim or interest shall bear date from the first divulging of the patent granted to the inhabitants by authority of His Royoll Highness, and not before the date thereof."

Hence, argued Gardner, if all former deeds are void and in the patent of June, 1671, the grant is to all the inhabitants, it follows that all are equal in ownership. This argument would have been without foundation except for the instructions. Consequently it was vital to the contention of Captain Gardner that this provision in the instructions should be held valid. For if it were modified or explained his only ground was gone. His hope hung by a

slender thread. It was not possible that a confirmation grant could be made and two years later the Grantor declare the early deeds were void which the grant sought to confirm. Yet this was Gardner's argument, and he had the instructions as a basis if they were valid.

The Coffin party took the ground that the Lovelace patent was merely a confirmation of previous grants, which might have lacked some formal provision or were given by officials of doubtful authority. The former things were not void but confirmed. The Governor must certainly so decide when his attention was called to the situation. And the Governor did render this decision.

But before the decision was announced, the Gardner party being in control of the government had passed a number of votes that created great bitterness in the minds of the Coffin party.

On the question of the proper construction to be given to the Lovelace patent, Gardner was wrong. But a new question had arisen—"Was the island to be governed by a landowners' aristocracy, or by the people themselves?" Gardner's democratic views were clearly sound, and Coffin's adherence to the other theory demonstrates that he was in error. This question was of greater importance than the construction of the Lovelace deed.

It may seem strange that such a fierce quarrel should take place over the instruction of the Governor and that it should continue with such increasing vigor when the question was settled. The cause of disagreement must have had its origin further back. Whoever studies the strifes of these early settlers will probably reach the conclusion that the struggle was largely the same that has always existed. The landowner wanted to be the aristocrat and have the tradesmen his subjects.

When Coffin and his relatives attempted to found a landowners' aristocracy, a vigorous protest was offered by

Captain John Gardner. It was the old contest in which the few sought to rule the many. There could be only one outcome in such a controversy.

In the correspondence which Tristram Coffin carried on with the Governor either Thomas Mayhew or his grandson Matthew usually joined. In November, 1674, Mayhew and Coffin represented that the first purchasers feared a disturbance in the quiet and peaceable possession of Nantucket from those who were admitted among them as tradesmen, because the latter claimed an equal interest with the first purchasers, and disputed the right to vote on the shares of those who were living away from the island. Thus, Tristram Coffin had two sons not on the island and he claimed the right to vote on their shares. This the Gardners contested.

Andros gave an interpretation to the language of Lovelace as follows :

“As to that clause in the additional instructions and directions for the government of the Island of Nantucket, wherein it is said that all ancient and obsolete deeds, etc. shall be esteemed of no force or validity, but the records of every one’s claim or interest shall bear date from the first divulging of the patent, etc.

“It is to be understood that all that were at that time equally possessed of any land, houses, etc., in that island were confirmed in their said possession by their patent, but obliged to record their said titles to avoid all future litigious suits upon account of their uncertainty, the which (if not yet due) the Chief Magistrates are hereby required to enjoin the same according to the custom of a manner, as is granted them in their patent.”

At the same time, Nov. 7, 1674, Governor Andros gave an order as follows, which was intended to reduce the Gardner party to a condition of obedience :

“Whereas I have been given to understand that several disorders have happened to the Islands Martin’s Vineyard and Nantucket (or one of them) since the time of the Dutch coming into these parts in July, 1673, I have with the advice of my Council thought best to order and appoint that the Governor or Governors and assistants of both the islands aforementioned be hereby authorized and empowered to call to account and punish according to Law all such persons as have been ringleaders or capital offenders and transgressors against the established government under his Royal Highness, the crime not extending to life, limb or banishment. But in case of such high crimes which may deserve these punishments, to secure the offenders and send them hither prisoners by the first conveyance.”

Tristram Coffin sent the following to the Governor :

“The original right of Nantucket was obtained by Thomas Mayhew, and Thomas Mayhew his son, of James forrett, Agent to William Earl of Sterling, the 30th day of October, 1641, and granted by them to the ten first purchasers Feb. 5, 1659, and the right of the Indian sachems May 10, 1660, before which time the said Mayhew could not obtain any land of the sachems upon said island.

“ At a meeting of the owners and purchasers the first original proprietors of Nantucket, June 8, 1674,

“First : Forasmuch as there appeared several grounds of suspicion of an endeavor by some lately admitted to the Island and severally that formerly had been admitted, and stated thereby the aforesaid proprietors to supplant the said first proprietors of their rights by the defective recording and uncertain keeping of said records, and also by passing two several sorts of laws, the one against the other, and both overthrowing and taking away the former right ; and, whereas, we applied ourselves to the General Court of

said Island at the season thereof for their assistance by their advice or otherwise, as it should belong to their cognizance in the starting of our said manor or interest for the future. They returned us answer that they were not in capacity of a court to answer by reason that the magistrates of Nantucket were not there, namely: Thomas Macy, Mr. Richard and John Gardner, with whom we had several times endeavored to understand their reasons, and in an amicable way to compose the matter, but all in vain. And whereas there have been several alienations from the ten first purchasers unto others and also some of the associates and partners of the said ten purchasers are not named in the first records at Salisbury whereby it may appear who are now the owners of the said lands; we the aforesaid purchasers, owners and freeholders of the said Island of Nantucket, have mutually agreed, voted and subscribed, being all present on the said Island, that an account shall presently be taken and recorded of those that are now the present owners of said land, whether of the ten first purchasers or of their ten associates and partners who are now on record called the twenty purchasers and owners, to whom the sole, proper and equal right doth belong of the said Island and appurtenances and of the order of all transactions that have passed for the conveyance of any of said rights until this time; and also that the like order shall be observed from time to time for the recording of such alienations as shall be made for the future, that every man's right may be orderly known and distinguished for time to come by perpetual succession.

“Thomas Mayhew, Robert Pike, Tristram Coffin, Sr., the mark of Richard Swaine, Sr., Stephen Greenleaf, Stephen Hussey, James Coffin, Tristram Coffin, Jr., Nathaniel Starbuck, John Swaine, John Coffin, John Bishop, Nathaniel Barnard.

“Accordingly at the same meeting it did appear by the



perusing the original records of Salisbury of 1659 and 1661, that these ten persons, viz.: Thomas Mayhew, Tristram Coffin, Christopher Hussey, Richard Swaine, Thomas Barnard, Peter Coffin, Stephen Greenleaf, John Swaine, Thomas Macy and William Pile were the first ten to whom the said Island and appurtenances did belong solely.

“Secondly, That at the said meeting in the same records it did appear that Robert Pike was owned by Christopher Hussey to be his partner; Robert Barnard to be Thomas Barnard’s partner; Edward Starbuck to be Thomas Macy’s partner; Tristram Coffin, Jr., to be Stephen Greenleaf’s partner, and James Coffin to be Peter Coffin’s partner.

“It is further declared and owned that these are also associates of the rest of the ten purchasers, viz.: Thomas Coleman was partner to John Swaine, as by deed; Nathaniel Starbuck was partner to Tristram Coffin, Sr.; John Smith with Thomas Mayhew; Thomas Look partner with Richard Swain as by deed; the right of William Pile was sold to Richard Swaine, who conveyed the one half thereof to Nathaniel Boulter and the other half to his son-in-law and daughters-in-law, William Bunker, Mary Bunker, Ann and Martha Bunker, as by deed, 1667. Nathaniel Boulter sold his right to John Bishop, Sr.; Capt. Christopher Hussey sold his own part unto his sons Stephen Hussey and John Hussey. John Smith, deceased, left his right to his two sons John Smith and Samuel Smith, by equal division, Feb. 14, 1670. Tristram Coffin, Sr., has conveyed one-half of his own proper right unto his son Stephen Coffin; Thomas Barnard conveyed one-half of his proper right to his son Nathaniel Barnard; Thomas Coleman conveyed one-half of his right purchased from John Swaine unto his son John Coleman.

“It is to be taken notice that this list of twenty first pur-

chasers should have been inserted before these alienations were made, namely: Thomas Mayhew, Tristram Coffin, Sr., Richard Swaine, Christopher Hussey, Thomas Barnard, Nathaniel Starbuck, John Bishop, Sr., Peter Coffin, Stephen Greenleaf, John Swain, Thomas Macy, John Smith, Robert Pike, Robert Barnard, Edward Starbuck, Tristram Coffin, Jr., James Coffin, Thomas Coleman, Thomas Look, William, Mary, Ann and Martha Bunker in the one-half right of William Pile.

“These are the twenty first purchasers who are called the first purchasers and their associates to whom the right was sold by Mr. Mayhew and which also bought the Indian right and the alienations above said, and all other alienations whatsoever have been derived from them when it is general or one of them when it is particular.

“At the same meeting Tristram Coffin acknowledged the one-half of his right to be conveyed to his son, Stephen Coffin, as by deed bearing date May 29, 1674.

“It is also acknowledged at the said meeting that the Neck called Mascatuk upon Nantucket, which was by Mr. Thomas Mayhew reserved to himself when he sold the patent right of Nantucket to the twenty purchasers, is no part of the sale, but do remain to him the said Mayhew according to the right that he obtained of the Indians according as it does appear in the deeds that we had of said Mr. Mayhew bearing date Feb. 5, 1659.

“It does also appear by a writing in the manner of a mortgage under the hand of Thomas Macy unto Tristram Coffin of that part or so much of it belonging to Thomas Macy being his twentieth part, as will pay the said Tristram Coffin for such sums as the said Coffin was to pay for the said Macy as by the said writing may appear, bearing date July 27, 1660, but no further proceedings did then appear about it.”

Then complaint was made that the records were held without being open to the public, and Andros gave this order :

“Whereas I am informed that a search or view and copies of the Public Records are denied to the Inhabitants others concerned in Nantucket,

These are therefore in His Majesty’s name to require you forthwith to take order therein and that for future all persons may have a legal and free recourse thereunto as in others His Majesty’s colonies in paying reasonable fee for the same ; of which you are not to fail or you will answer the contrary at your uttermost peril.”

So each party proceeded to send communications to New York. The Coffin faction complaining that their rights were infringed by the half-share men, and then the other party while asserting the greatest loyalty to the government would claim that under the Lovelace patent they were justified. And the Gardners held the reins of government. In one letter Coffin and Mayhew wrote :

“But our interest and property is ordered and disposed of principally by said tradesmen and seamen who with some of the purchasers being the major part of said Island in persons though not in property have elected unto authority some of themselves whereby they have presumed to dispose of our purchase, dividing it among one another. Neither can we have any redress, they affirming that every card they play is an ace and every ace a trump and that we have no remedy in law.”

On Dec. 28, 1675, Stephen Hussey was fined for contempt of authority in saying to Capt. John Gardner “Meddle with your own business. I gave Edward Cartwright authority to let his hogs run on the common.”

As late as that date the Gardner party seem to be in the ascendant.

It is not clear with such a small majority why they proceeded with such confidence. They appeared to fear no change in the island politics. But the parties were too evenly balanced for either to expect uninterrupted control. A change of two from the Gardner party would give their opponents a working majority. This is exactly what took place.

During the next two months a singular change occurred. Thomas Macy and his son-in-law, William Worth, abandoned their party and joined the Coffin faction. The only documents dealing with this episode which took place in the early winter of 1676, are letters written by Peter Folger and John Gardner, and they offer no explanation. It seems that the commission of Thomas Macy had expired and he called the town together to learn if the town would stand by him in acting as Chief Magistrate although the time of his appointment had gone by. Evidently some of them agreed to uphold him in this usurpation of power, and the Coffin party gave him their support. For this reason he left the Gardner party. William Worth was a young man and would naturally follow the lead of Macy, particularly as they promised to make him Clerk of the Courts.

At the meeting held Feb. 13, 1676, the new order was instituted.

Thomas Macy and Peter Coffin had a grant of a fishing privilege, and they were appointed to examine the town book that had been recovered from Peter Folger to see if it had been altered.

Then William Worth was chosen Town Clerk and Clerk of the Court, and John Gardner and Peter Folger were forbidden to participate thereafter in any of the town's concerns.

So far the Coffin party did no more than their opponents. The latter removed all their enemies from office,

and now the same was visited upon them. But Tristram Coffin was in no mood to stop at this point. For over a year and a half he had been out of office and seen his chief enemy gaining in authority. Now he thirsted for revenge.

Peter Folger was arrested and put in jail Feb. 10, 1676, without being able to see the warrant ordering his arrest. He was sent to jail Feb. 19 because he could not furnish bail. The jail was a place "where never any Englishman was put."

Here he was confined for over a year and a half, although the keeper allowed him sometimes to visit his family.

At this time he was over sixty years old and had been an interpreter of the Indian language on these islands for thirty years.

At a court of adjournment held in Sherburne on Nantucket the 14th of April, 1676,

William Worth is chosen Recorder and Clarke of the Writs of this Court ;

"Peter foulger inditted for contempt of his Majesty's authority in not appearing before the Court according to a summons served on hem and being apprehended by special warrant and being brought to court to answer for his contentious carrag and being demanded why he did so act gave no answer though the court waited on hem a while and urged hem to speak,

The sentence of the Court is to remist the cause to the Court of Assize at New York as the law directs, and to give 20 pounds bond for his appearance and to abide the order of the Court and to stand committed till the bond be given."

Whatever else may be said of the rule of John Gardner and his associates, it is a fact that they never imprisoned or

disfranchised their enemies. But when Thomas Macy became a pliant tool in the hands of Tristram Coffin, with congenial assistants, it was easy for Coffin to wreak his vengeance upon the members of the other party. Peter Folger was in jail, but more severe measures were necessary to satisfy his desire for revenge. Then began a series of court proceedings against John Gardner and his relatives and friends. In these events Coffin had fierce coadjutors in the Mayhews at Edgartown, who seem to have had a grudge against Captain Gardner. The following are copies from the court records :

Peter Folger's son Eleazur had married Sarah Gardner, the daughter of Richard ; they all expressed themselves with indignation at Peter Folger's imprisonment. Consequently they were all arrested.

“At a court held the 22nd of April, 1677,

“Mr. Richard Gardner, Eleazur Folger, and Sarah Gardner were summoned to appear at the Court to answer for their speaking in derogation of the sentence of the Court, but neither of them appeared.”

At the next court they appeared, with the following result :

“Sarah, wife of Mr. Richard Gardner, being legally convicted of speaking very opprobriously and uttering many slanderous words concerning the imprisonment of Peter Folger who was imprisoned by order of the Court, upon her good demeaning herself and civilly being to the good satisfaction and likeness of the Court, the Court think fit to remit all other fines provided by law in such case, but she shall be reprov'd and admonish'd to have care for the future of evil words tending to defaming His Majesty's Court.”

“Mr. Richard Gardner being legally convicted of non-appearance at Court, according to summons, the Court

perceiving that it was occasioned by his mistake, do acquit him."

There is no record of any dealing with Richard Gardner concerning the merits of his offence.

Tobias Coleman was a sympathizer of Peter Folger's and he was also arrested.

"Tobias Coleman, being legally convicted of speaking evil of authority and many vile and slanderous words oftentimes, is adjudged to pay fine of twenty-five shillings, and shall be bound to his good behaviour twelve months in a bond of five pounds, and to pay the fees of the Court."

"Eleazur Folger, being legally convicted of speaking to the defamation of the Court, acknowledging that he said, it was his judgment it was cruelty to put his father in prison," he is adjudged to pay fine of five pounds, or twenty shillings and a public acknowledgement to the satisfaction of this Court, the fine to be paid in money or equivalent."

There was another book called "The Small Book of Records," in which were probably kept records similar in character to those found in Book No. 2 in the Registry of Deeds. It is a fact that the earliest Court Records extant begin in July, 1672; there must have been court transactions before that time, and there are two or three indications in Book No. 1 that there were convictions in 1666. No book of that kind is now in existence. This book must have contained all the transactions before 1672 by the court, and possibly transactions of other sorts. Whether this book was ever recovered from Peter Folger cannot be known; there is certainly no record of it after the following:

June 6, 1677.

To the Marshall of Nantucket,

Greeting:

You are in His Majesty's name required to bring forth-

with Peter Folger before the Court to answer for his neglecting and upon his request refusing to attend the Court, for officiating his office therein.

THOMAS MAYHEW,  
President.

“Before the Marshall went with the warrant the Court upon Peter Folger’s non-attendance at the Court according to his duty and place, sent the Marshall to request his appearance, and to bring the book and writing with him which relates to the Court. Said Folger returned this answer in writing :

“I do certainly know that I have been a prisoner since the fourteenth of February, last past, and do as certainly know the cause why I was put in prison.’

“Peter Folger being brought before the Court, refusing absolutely to bring the small book of records and writings relating to the Court, as appeared by his refusing to speak, by the Court instructed and urged thereto with telling him the great danger might insue for want of said records, it being the Court’s present concern to settle the spirits of the enraged heathen.

“Said Peter persisting in his stubbornness, the Court adjudged him to be committed close prisoner until further order.”

In the meantime matters were reaching a serious attitude. No man had as much influence with the Indians as John Gardner and Peter Folger. It was reported to them that Gardner and Folger were overthrown, the latter in jail and the former soon to be imprisoned, and tumult was in the air. They were also informed that if matters progressed this way with Gardner and Folger removed from all influence the Indians would soon be at the mercy of the whites. While King Philip had not been able to arouse them yet, the treatment of Folger and Gardner



incited them to rebellion. Coffin and his associates were filled with apprehension.

In this extremity the Coffin party seemed to consider that still further severity was necessary to compel obedience, not only of Gardner and Folger but of their sympathizers.

“At a Court held June, 1677,

“The Court having used all means for procuring of the book in the hands of Peter Folger, and finding there are none of the records for settling of Indian affairs, whereof they were in great measure stilled from their rage with the promise thereof, the Court told said Peter Folger that as they had the authority of the Court, and he seemed to question the same, if it was in that respect desired him to allege anything to detriment of the Court if he could object anything they could and would hear him, and the Court would give him bail and save him harmless. The said Peter remained obstinate.

“The Court have resolved and do order that a fine of five pounds be levied on the estate of Peter Folger, and that he remain close prisoner without bail, until he deliver the said book with writings relating to the Court officers, or cause the delivery thereof unto this Court or the authority of Nantucket, and do likewise disfranchise the said Peter Folger.

“The Court ordered that Peter Folger be brought before the Court. Having come the Court declared the present necessity they stand in of the book of records. He said he was willing to deliver it if he could according to his sentence; the Court signified to him that if at any time he would deliver it the Marshall should attend him, but he would give no other answer; he is again committed to prison.”

This condition did not suit Tristram Coffin. Folger

would not yield. Some further coercive measures must be put in operation, so Coffin ordered John Gardner's arrest for "burning a deed of sale." Possibly this was some original Mayhew or Indian deed.

"Complaint is made unto this Court by Mr. Tristram Coffin and John Swaine against Captain John Gardner for burning a deed of sale wherein the right of the English inhabitants upon the Island of Nantucket was contained. With words spoken to the disquieting of the English inhabitants, His Majesty's good subjects there, if not their subversion, as likewise his Royal Highness' interests in settling the plantation.

"Bailed 50 Pounds.

"Whereas the Court taking into consideration how they might better maintain His Majesty's authority in this Court, especially with relation to the heathen among whom it was vaguely rumored that there was no government on Nantucket, and having good cause to suspect the same to proceed originally from some English instigating them, or by their practice encouraging them in the same, to the great damage of causing insurrection.

"This Court respecting the same saw good to send for Capt. John Gardner, who at the Quarter Court refused to appear, being summoned, and had refused to assist the constable upon his command in the execution of his office to make his appearance to answer to the same.

"In pursuance whereof this Court, sending the Marshall twice for him with a warrant, refused to come, the Marshall afterwards fetching him by force.

"When he came to the Court demeaned himself most irreverently, sitting down with his hat on, taking no notice of the Court; behaving himself so both in words and gesture as declared his great contempt of authority of this Court, tending to the dishonor of His Majesty's authority

and the encouragement of others, and especially the the heathen who being before by some evil spirit persuaded that there was no authority, were hardly persuaded from using violence; the composing whereof was the principal cause of this Court's present sitting.

“The Court hath therefore thought good for the upholding and maintaining the peace and tranquillity of this place, which is so greatly endangered by a precedent of such note and at such a time and by such a practice, to discountenance such practices and deterring others from the like have resolved and do therefore order; that Captain John Gardner shall pay a fine of ten pounds in money or something equivalent thereunto into the treasury, and is disfranchised.

“Capt. John Gardner being legally convicted of speaking words tending to contempt of authority ordered that he receive a sharp admonition.”

June 6, 1677, the Marshall saith he served his warrant on Capt. Gardner, whose answer was, ‘That he did not disown the King's authority but I will not act.’”

Another warrant was issued to apprehend Capt. Gardner, and placed in the hands of William Bunker, Marshall. Having fined and disfranchised Capt. Gardner, they next ordered him to be arrested, and the testimony is recorded and the record is as follows:

June 17, 1677.

To the Marshall of Nantucket, Greeting:

Whereas the Court have good cause to suspect Capt. John Gardner to have an especial hand in obstructing the proceedings of this Court by joining himself to Peter Folger in keeping back, with-holding and concealing the public records and writings relating to this Court, as also for giving out threatening speeches or words with tendency to the Court, or some member thereof, on Monday last, being the sixth of this instant June.

You are therefore in His Majesty's name forthwith to appear with Capt. John Gardner and him bring before the Court to make answer to the premises and take sufficient assistance with you as you see need and occasion, and if need require you may draw latch, break open doors, and all things else remove that may obstruct your lawful proceedings herein.

MATTHEW MAYHEW,  
Secretary.

TESTIMONY.

The deposition of Thomas Look, aged about 31 years.

That yesterday the Constable, treating with Capt. John Gardner about the Court book and papers, and telling him that it may be he could help him to them, for he was going to look for them. This deponent remembereth not said Captain's answer, but as soon as the Constable was gone Capt. Gardner saith: "I know what they would have, but they shall not have it if I can help it, till it comes to New York; they shall be seen there first." And further saith not.

Attested in Court June 7, 1677.

Deposition of Thomas West, aged 31 years:

That the Constable coming to Capt. Gardner's asked him for the court book and those writings that belonged to it, and Capt. Gardner said to me "They are resolved to have those things which we are resolved they shall not have before they come to New York, if we can, but let them take their course."

Attested June 7, 1677.

Testimony of Tristram Coffin, aged 67 years:

That on the 6th day of June, 1677, the General Court being sit in the town of Sherburne, and Capt. John Gardner being brought into court, and sot down on a chest

where I sat, there being of the members of the Court that spake to him concerning his contemptuous carriages in regard of the King's authority then and there present, and he accused and brought as a delinquent.

I spake to him and told him that I was very sorry that he did behave himself. The aforesaid Capt. John Gardner replied and said :

“I know my business and it may be that some of those that have meddled with me had better have eaten fier.”

Witness my hand to the verity of this,

TRISTRAM COFFIN.

“ At a legal meeting in the Town of Sherburne, April 15, 1677, Mr. Thomas Macy chosen Moderator and the laws now enacted by the General Court were published.”

“At a legal town meeting the 20th of the 4th month, 1677,

“Voted by the town that Mr. Peter Coffin is chosen and desired to go to the Vineyard, and the town doth empower him to agree with Mr. Matthew Mayhew to go to New York about the Town's concerns, and if he see cause he may go himself, or to act any other way according to his discretion for the sending there, according to the instructions given, and the town doth engage to satisfy Mr. Coffin and own his proceedings.

“Voted by the town that Mr. Coffin, Mr. Macy, Stephen Hussey and William Worth are chosen to draw up instructions for him or them that go to New York.”

This was intended to meet the effect of letters that had just before been sent by Folger and Gardner.

When the constable called to collect the fine Capt. John refused to pay it and the official took “a haluef a barrel of Rom,” and would not furnish the Captain with a copy of the warrant. At another time the constable took eight cattle

and a fat sheep. But being disfranchised exceeded the Captain's patience, and he appealed to the Colonial Governor Andros, and alleged that the court which disfranchised and fined him was not a legal tribunal.

1. Thomas Macy, Chief Magistrate had been without a commission since October, 1676.

2. Nathaniel Barnard was not chosen an assistant by a majority of vote.

3. And Peter Coffin was an inhabitant and officer in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

In due time the decision of the Governor came and was based on the ground that the court had exceeded its power.

*By the Governor.*

“Whereas I did by advice of my council the third of August last suspend any further proceedings against Capt. John Gardner complained of by the Constable and Mr. Tristram Coffin, Senior, and till further order, which the year being so far spent is not like to be till next summer, this is further by advice of my council to signify an order any or all proceedings in said matters for his disfranchisement or fine upon said account void and non, as being illegal beyond your authority and only peculiar to if in the power of the highest judicature in these parts, and if Peter Foulger's case which is by you admitted to the Court of Assize come not afore next Court I do order the remitting the proceedings of both causes to the Governor and and Council by the first good convenience for further order therein; binding the parties over to answer when called. And if in the meantime they or any of them should wise behave themselves may further proceed against them according to law.

Given under my hand and seal in New York this 20th of September, 1677.

E. ANDROS.

To the Magistrate of the Particular and  
General Court at Nantucket.

This is to signify that Capt. John Gardner's fine and disfranchisement is void and null according to the Governor's order and Peter foulger's also."

It is said that the Anglo-Saxons, more than any other race, have respect for the law either statutory or by Court decision. It follows that the man who proves that he has the law on his side is likely to gain respect.

This decision had two results. It made the prime movers of the persecution, Mayhew and Tristram Coffin, more bitter and determined. For nearly two years they had ruled with an iron hand. Now to see their authority snatched from their grasp by one stroke of the pen was more than they could endure. They declared in a great passion that they would make his fine and disfranchisement valid; that they were resolved to show that the Court of Assize was above the Governor and that his decision would not stand, that they should disregard the decision. Then they sent the constable and took two of Captain Gardner's cattle.

But before the people Capt. John Gardner had won a signal victory.

As soon as the Governor's decision was announced it restored him to the favor of the people notwithstanding the efforts of Tristram Coffin to the contrary.

In Dec., 1677, Capt. John Gardner was selected for certain town business. Then the town apologized for what had been done two years before.

"At a meeting of the town the 6th day of Jan. 1678, voted, that whereas Capt. Gardner and Peter foulger were by an order of the town bearing date 1st mo., 16, 1676, prohibiting them to act in the public concerns of the Island at New York or elsewhere either by word or writing, this

is to manifest and declare that the intent of the town in that order was not to seclude either the persons aforementioned or any other from town meetings nor to act therein as townsmen, and this hath appeared ever since in that they have been warned to town meetings as other men, and this is further to declare that if any sentence or clause in the said order may be strained by interpreters to such a sense, namely, to seclude or prohibit them or either, from coming to town meetings or to act therein as townsmen, contrary to the intent of the town tis hereby made utterly void and null."

The next year the town continued to show their confidence in the Gardners.

"At a legal meeting the 9th of January 1679,

"Voted by the town that if any man here legally chosen to be an assistant and refuses to serve in that place he shall pay three pounds in money, or equivalent, to be improved for public use of the town.

"William Worth was chosen to be an assistant, having seventeen votes.

"Capt. Gardner was chosen to be an assistant, having fourteen votes.

"William Gayer was chosen to be an assistant, having sixteen votes.

"To the choosing of Captain Gardner Mr. Coffin dissenteth.

"At a Court held at Nantucket February 29th, 1679,

"On the complaint of Tristram Coffin, Chief Magistrate on Nantucket, ordered :

"That whereas they have received information against the Town of Sherburne for electing Capt. John Gardner for an assistant in government, that a warrant be issued forth to call the town to answer for their contempt of authority therein ; he being under sentence of court rendered incapable of such office of trust."



But a change had now taken place in favor of Captain Gardner. On account of bad management of a vessel which was wrecked at the east end of Nantucket, more through his carelessness than avarice, Tristram Coffin and his family had lost esteem in the community. No matter how much the old man might protest, the ability and honesty of John Gardner were realized, and he was made agent of the Governor and appointed Chief Magistrate.

“First Month, 30, 1680.

“Capt. John Gardner had been appointed an assistant magistrate for the year and presented his acceptance called an ‘engagement’ signed by him. As soon as presented objection was made as follows:—

“Mr. Tristram Coffin, chief Magistrate on Nantucket, doe declare against the entry of Capt. John Gardner’s engagement as giving him power to sit as an assistant, he being under disfranchisement by the General Court’s account.

“At a legal meeting the 25th day of June, 1680, Mr. Richard Gardner was chosen that his name might be sent to the Governor, and Capt. John Gardner at the same time was chosen that his name might be sent also to know his pleasure as to choice respecting a chief magistrate for the year ensuing.

“Tristram Coffin enters his decent against the choosing of Capt. John Gardner.”

Nov. 10, 1680, Capt. John Gardner was appointed Chief Magistrate, the highest office that a Nantucketer could hold.

“At a town meeting, the 20th of August, 1680,

“Voted by the town that they would send a man to the Governor; the town did choose Capt. John Gardner to go to the Governor to answer him in the Town’s behalf, as also

to do other things respecting a defect laid to our charge, as also to treat with His Honor according to further instructions given him.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAPT. GARDNER.

“*Imprimis* :

We desire our trusty friend, Capt. Gardner, to go to New-York and to answer in our behalf unto our Honored Governor respecting a defect which is amongst us in not sending returns according to order.

“We desire him to petition His Excellency to grant us the privilege that at the time of the General Court, being at our island, that our Chief Magistrate may preside and have a casting vote, we having by long experience felt and seen the inconveniences of the contrary.

“We earnestly desire our friend in our behalf to petition His Honor’s assistance against any that shall anyway, by way of molestation or alteration, infringe the liberty of our shares, and whatsoever our trusty friend shall judge to be good for our plantation to desire His Honor’s favor in it.

“The town did choose Mr. Richard Gardner, Mr. James Coffin, Mr. William Gayer and Mr. William Worth to treat with Capt. Gardner about his going to New York, and to agree with him.”

The confidence of the town had become established in Peter Folger and Capt. John Gardner; one other matter remained to be adjusted; these men had been unjustly fined and deprived of their property; this was ordered returned to them as follows :

“At a Council held in New York on the 10th day of October, 1680, upon the petition of Capt. John Gardner of the Island of Nantucket setting forth that at a general court holden on the said Island the fifth of June, 1677,

he was fined 10 pounds and disfranchised also as by the records appear, and not judging himself to deserve such censure, on his application to His Honor the Governor and Council the 3rd of August following obtained an order to suspend all further proceedings thereon till further order, but before said order came to hand execution for the fine was levied and after receipt of the order the disfranchisement maintained, and on further application the 21st of September, 1677, obtained another order in Council which declared the said sentence void and null, and be bound to answer in said matter before the Governor and Council or Court of Assize as by said order notwithstanding, which the fine and disfranchisement was maintained. And no complaint or prosecution made and prayed to be discharged and acquitted of said fine disfranchisement or further attendance. Mr. Matthew Mayhew and Mr. Richard Sasson, two of the members of said Court, deputed from thence, present.

“The proceedings of said Court were read, and they fully heard or they could allege on that behalf. The said proceedings and judgment appearing to be extra judicial and no prosecution in the Superior Court, ordered, and the said judgment of Court against Capt. John Gardner of Nantucket is hereby declared void and null, and he restored to his full freedom and liberty as if no such judgment or sentence had been given, and if anything hath been taken from him by virtue thereof to be restored him again or full satisfaction made by such as have taken and enjoyed the same, which the present magistrates are forthwith to see performed.

E. ANDROSS.”

“At a council held the 25th of November, 1680:

“By order of the Court.

“Peter Coffin; You are forthwith to deliver unto Peter Folger that beast which was killed at Poatpes, there to deliver it to him, it being the beast that was formerly

taken from him for a fine. You having liberty to way the quarters, hide and tallow, and to take a receipt accordingly."

It was in June, 1680, that Tristram Coffin dissented for the last time. The reason is as follows:

The wreck of a French ship loaded with hides took place at the east end of Nantucket September, 1678; Tristram Coffin, as Chief Magistrate, took charge of the wreck and his agent sold the property. The proceeds amounted to £477. Coffin made no report of the case, and Governor Andross sent Commissioners to Nantucket to investigate. After allowing Coffin for charges they ordered that he should pay the Governor £343 and they decided that he had acted contrary to law. Coffin applied to the Governor for an abatement on the ground that he had not gained anything from the proceeds, but had paid out most in expenses. The Governor finally reduced the claim to £150.

In this affair John Gardner, who was agent of the Governor, greatly befriended Coffin, and it was through his influence that the abatement was allowed. Coffin's son James probably paid the demand. John Gardner received the money for the Governor December 4, 1680.

Tristram Coffin died in October, 1681, and within the next decade Richard Gardner, Thomas Macy, Peter Folger and Thomas Mayhew had passed away.

Thus ended the Nantucket Insurrection. In 1686 a few rods east of the homestead of Richard Gardner was built a house, for those days pretentious and elegant. In the chimney was a device in later days called a horse shoe. Tradition says the land was donated by Capt. John Gardner, and the house built from lumber sawed in the mill of Peter Coffin. In this house lived Jethro Coffin, grandson of Tristram, the great dissenter, and his wife Mary, the daughter of Capt. John Gardner.

## CHAPTER III.

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### *The Nantucket Group and Their Early Names.*

This group comprises Nantucket, whose area is about 30,000 acres; Tuckannuck, 1260, and Muskeget, 300 acres; together with some small islets between the two latter called Gravelly Islands.

The longest line east and west that can be drawn on Nantucket is twelve miles, from Madaket to Siasconset; and the longest north and south is six miles, from Tom Nevers Head to Wauwinet. The outline of the island is very irregular, its coast line being eighty-eight miles in length. The highest point is ninety-one feet above the sea level, and is located in Sauls Hills. There are over twenty fresh water ponds, of which the following exceed twenty acres in area :

Hummuck, called Waquittaquay by Indians, . . .	320
Sachacha, called Sesagasha by Indians, . . .	310
Long, . . . . .	215
Myacomet, . . . . .	45
Gibbs, . . . . .	31
Capaum [once a harbor], . . . . .	23

The name "Nantucket" appears for the first time in 1641 in the deed from Forrett to Mayhew. It is spelled differently before and since. On the map of De Laet, 1630, it is spelled "Natocks." Tuckannuck is given Pentockynock and Muskeget as Kotget. On a French map in 1650 is given "Isle de Nantockyte." On Janssen's map, published

in 1644 in Amsterdam, the names are spelled the same as by De Laet. On the map of Lamb Fengr, 1665, is given "Nantock" and the other names as given by Janssen. On a map published in New Amsterdam in 1673, while the same names of the small islands are retained, the larger island is named "Vlielant-at-Natocke." It is clear that these maps were based on that of 1630. In 1697 Cotton Mather gave the name Nantoket. Since which time it has remained without change as conveyed to Mayhew.

### *Tuckannuck and Adjacent Islands.*

In the deed of Nantucket to Mayhew are named "the two small islands adjacent." But there can be no doubt that Gravelly Islands were intended to be included.

Tuckannuck comprises about 1260 acres, and was conveyed by Mayhew October 10, 1659, to Tristram Coffin, Peter Coffin, Tristram Coffin, Jr., and James Coffin for the sum of £6. This title was confirmed by the patent from Lovelace June 29, 1671, in which the island is called Tuckanucket. The Indian Sachem of Tuckannuck was Pottacohannett and he had a reputed son called Lame Joseph, from whom a deed was obtained of his interest in Tuckannuck by giving him twenty acres on the Island of Nantucket. This Sachem had two other sons, Jacob and Ackeawong, from whom a deed was procured covering their interest in Tuckannuck, March 6, 1681, for forty acres of land on Nantucket and £5 in money.

When counties in Massachusetts were first established the single Island of Nantucket constituted Nantucket County, while all the other islands south of Cape Cod were included in Dukes County. It would have seemed to be more natural to include Muskeget and Tuckannuck with Nantucket.

In 1713 Tuckanucket was transferred to Nantucket County and was called Tuckanug.

In 1678 Tristram Coffin conveyed to each of his grandchildren, nearly seventy in number, ten acres of land on Tuckannuck. It will be seen that his quarter interest of the island was not sufficient. For over a century this island was held in common largely by the Coffin descendants. In 1780 the owners of the island were ascertained for purposes of partition. They estimated the island at an area of 1257 acres and they considered each acre one common or share. The following were then the owners and their shares. The fractions of shares are omitted.

John Coffin,		132	shares.
Hope Barnard,		24	“
Joseph Coffin,		33	“
Cromwell Coffin,		23	“
Love Coffin,		26	“
Benjamin Coffin, 3d,		36	“
Dinah Folger,		36	“
Josiah Coffin,		104	“
Hepsah Barnard,		12	“
Nathan Macy,		52	“
Peter Coffin,		26	“
Hepsabeth Coffin,		2	“
Daniel Coffin,		60	“
Robert Coffin,		23	“
James Coffin,	}	38	“
Benjamin Coffin,			
Grafton Gardner,		13	“
Judith Gardner,		15	“
Zacheus Macy,		103	“
Caleb Macy,		33	“
Peter Coffin,		156	“
Jacob Alley,		103	“
Paul Gardner,		6	“
Caleb Bunker	heirs,	24	“
John Coffin,	“	16	“
Josiah Barker,	“	43	“
P. Coleman,	“	6	“
Mary Gardner,	“	6	“
Abigail Fitch,	“	7	“
Peter Jenkins,	“	2	“
Uriah Gardner,	“	2	“
Hepsey Hathaway,	“	6	“
Mary Thurston,	“	13	“
Jethro Starbuck,	“	6	“
Richard Coffin,	“	46	“



A partition was obtained according to a plan that was duly recorded. In 1822 the owners had become much changed and a new division of the island was desired. James Norton had purchased nearly one third. The owners at that time were :

Ebenezer Coffin,  
 James Barker,  
 Benjamin Gardner,  
 Thomas Brock,  
 Robert Coffin,  
 John Cartwright,  
 Joseph Fisher,  
 Richard Mitchell,  
 Daniel Bunham,  
 William Brooks,  
 Abel Coffin,  
 Daniel Barney,  
 Ebenezer Dunham,  
 Tristram Jenkins,  
 Samuel Dunham,  
 Daniel Allen,  
 Robert King,  
 Andrew Brock,  
 James Norton.

This island has always been used for sheep grazing. In 1891 there were thirteen owners, of whom John B. Brooks, William S. Bigelow, George B. Coffin, James G. Smith and the Dunhams owned all but three acres.

*Gravelly Islands.*

On some of the old maps two are delineated, and on others three. On Dr. Ewer's map, published 1869, there are marked two islands, and near by are several very small islets that are scarcely more than shoals. The first mention of these islands was in 1771, when Dr. Samuel Gelston, a physician residing in Nantucket, introduced a novel cure for small pox, by which it was claimed that men could secure immunity from the dread disease when travelling in other countries where it prevailed. It was by inoculation, which was a process by which the patient was infected with the disease at some locality remote from any settlement and there treated in a hospital until recovery. Dr. Gelston selected Gravelly Islands for the purpose and there erected his hospital. This method of treatment met with positive and vigorous opposition from the Quakers, and by their influence in 1778 the town arranged with Dr. Gelston to purchase his hospital buildings for £1000. It is said they were then destroyed, being the only buildings ever erected on these islands.

In the only deed covering this section, dated June, 1838, William Mayhew conveyed his interest as heir of the first purchaser to a relative named Thomas Mayhew. These islands belonged to the descendants of the first Thomas Mayhew.

*Muskeget.*

This island is the westernmost of the Nantucket group. It has no value except for fishing and hunting. Its title is very obscure because of the error in the record of deeds. Until 1887 this island belonged to Dukes County, and consequently the proper registry was in Edgartown. But many of the deeds were recorded in Nantucket. This

probably made them invalid. Like Tuckannuck, this Island was first conveyed to Tristram Coffin and certain members of his family. Only a few transfers by deed can be found, and the only known interests in 1895 aggregated only one undivided seventh of the island.

The William Mayhew above mentioned, July 1, 1839, conveyed his interest as an heir of the original Thomas Mayhew to the same person to whom he sold his interest in Gravelly Islands. No claim was ever made under either of these deeds.

Muskeget was resorted to for fishing and hunting by sportsmen as though it was public property until in the 80's the Muskeget Club was incorporated. Having purchased all ascertainable interests, a club house was built on the east end of the island. This act was resented by persons who had always had free use of the island. They interpreted the methods and proceedings of the club as being undertaken with a purpose to acquire exclusive control of the island and prevent its use by any persons except club members. An application was consequently made to the Legislature that so much of Muskeget as was not held by individuals that could be known and ascertained should be set off and held as a public park. Such an act was passed in 1895. Under this act, Nov. 25, 1895, the Selectmen of Nantucket divided the island by a north and south line beginning at Jenkins Point, so called, and took possession of the section west of this line and laid out the same as a public park or reservation, which is used by the public and on which is maintained the life saving station. The Muskeget Club controls the section east of said line. Except as above mentioned the only buildings on Muskeget have been small houses used in hunting and fishing.



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Land Owners

... BY ...

HENRY BARNARD WORTH.

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## CHAPTER IV.

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### *The Settlers and Their Homes.*

Richard Gardner built his house on the west side of Sunset hill in 1665, and it was the easternmost of that date. To the west, dotted over the landscape were the homes of the other settlers.

The deed from Mayhew to the first purchasers was dated July 2, 1659. The consideration to be paid was £30 in money and two beaver hats which, for convenience, may be valued at £5 each. Then the twenty purchasers would have to pay £2 each, for 1,500 acres at the rate of slightly over a farthing per acre.

It will be observed that the date is July 2nd, 1659. But in February of that year three purchasers were holding meetings in Salisbury and enacting regulations about their island purchase.

“At Salisbury, February, '59.

At a meeting of the sd purchasers or the major pt of them appved and allowed by the rest together with some others that were owned for associates as will hereafter appe, it was agreed and determined and app'ved as followeth: that these ten owners will amitt of ten more ptners who shall have equal power and interest with themselves: And that either of the purchasers forementioned shall have liberty to take a ptner whom he please not being justly excepted against by the rest: At that meeting Robbert Pyke was owned ptner with Christopher Hussey; Robert Bernard was owned ptner with Thomas Ber-

nard; Tristram Coffin Jun. ptner with Stephen Greenleaf and James Coffin ptner with Peter Coffin.

At the same meeting it was mutually and unanimously agreed upon determined and concluded that no man whatsoever shall purchase any land of any of the Indians upon the sd island for his owne or other private or particular use; But what whatsoever purchase shall be made shall be for the generall accompt of the twenty owners or purchasers; And whatsoever P'son shall purchase any land upon any other accompt it shall be accompted voyd and null except what is done by licence from the said owners or purchasers.

At the same meeting it was ordered and determined that there be ten other Inhabitants admitted into the plantation who shall have such accomodations as the owners or purchasers shall judge meet: as namely necessary tradesmen and seamen.

At a meeting of the owners of the Island of Nantukket Salisbury it was debated and after debate determined and concluded that as ther had bin a former meeting in Salisbury at the house of Benjamen Kemball in Feb. 6:59 in which meeting an order was made for ye p'hibitting of any p'son from the purchaseing of any land from any of the Indians upon the Ile of Nantukket except for the use of the twenty owners or purchasers: the order shall stand inviolable and unalterable, as that which is also lately necessary to ye continuance of the well-being of the place and the contrary that which tends to ye confusion and ruine of the whole and the subverting of the rule and order already agreed upon and the depriveing of ye sd owners of their just rights and interests. Also it was ordered at the same meeting that all the lands that is fit for Areable land convenient for houselots shall be forthwith measured that the quantity thereof may be known, which being done shall be divided by equal pportion; that is to say foure



fifths pts to ye owners or purchasers and ye other fifth pt unto the ten other Inhabitants, where of John Bishop shall have two pt or shares that is to say of that fifth pt belonging to ye ten Inhabitants.

Also at the same meeting it was ordered that Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy, Edward Starbuck, Thomas Bernard and Peter Ffoulger of Martha's vineyard shall have power to measure and lay out the sd land according to ye above sd order and whatsoever shall be done and concluded in ye sd case by them or any three of them Peter Ffoulger being one shall be accompted legall and valid."

The only explanation of these proceedings is that Macy and Coffin made a contract in 1658 to buy Nantucket from Mayhew, but refused to accept the deed until the latter had obtained a conveyance from the Indians. Mayhew succeeded in procuring a grant from the sachems, June 21, 1659, and within two weeks, the English purchasers had their deed.

An inquiry always arises why did Macy, Coffin, Starbuck and their associates purchase Nantucket? The fanciful story about Macy escaping from the banks of the Merrimac in an open boat and drifting to Nantucket is without basis of fact.

The records indicate that the three men above named, found their environment in Massachusetts Bay, far from congenial. Starbuck was an elder in a church in Dover, where he had trouble on account of his views concerning baptism. Macy had been arrested and charged with violating town regulations in Salisbury, and so had Coffin's wife. It is likely therefore, that they were ready to remove to a more liberal neighborhood. Mayhew had all the land he needed at the Vineyard and was ready to sell Nantucket, where he had occasionally tarried to preach to the Indians. This was likely the moving cause that suggested the purchase of Nantucket.

When it was discovered that sheep raising could be conducted profitably, the Colemans were asked to join the company on account of their experience with sheep. The records give no intimation why the Swains and Barnards were invited. But all the others were related to one or more of the leading six. Macy was a cousin of Mayhew and may thus have learned of Nantucket.

When the first Indian deed was given, Macy and Edward Starbuck were on the Island, and the latter was there the next winter.

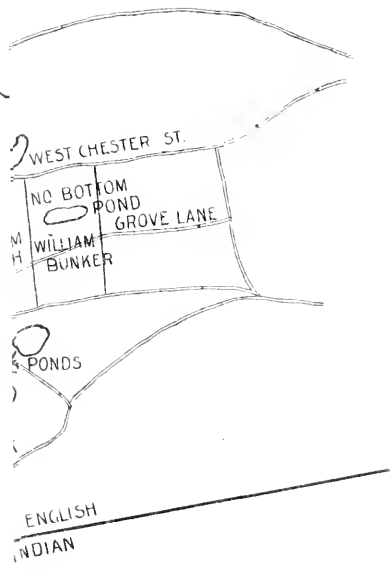
Some errors have been allowed to pass for fact in relation to the locality where the English established their houses. Dr. Ewer's maps states that the Town was first settled at Maddaket. The records clearly indicate that the facts were otherwise. There are two references to an old cellar of Edward Starbuck near Long pond, one in 1670 and the other in 1674. This cellar was located just where Dr. Ewer designates the site of the first town. The reader will agree from what will immediately be shown, that in the early summer of 1661, the settlers left Massachusetts Bay and selected houselots along the chain of ponds from Cappam Harbor to the sea. They never selected houselots nor built houses at Maddaket. The fact undoubtedly is, that the old cellar had a house over it where Starbuck and other settlers lived when they were on the Island until the arrival of the "company."

The names of the first ten purchasers are given in the following record:

“Towne ordered

The 2d of July, 1659.

These ptyes after mentioned did buy all right and Interest——of the Iles of Nantukket that did belong to Sir Fferdinand Georges, and the Lord Sterling. Mr.



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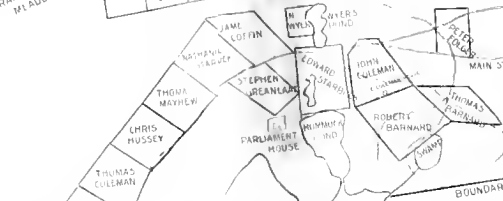
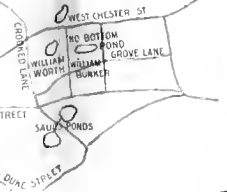
Richard Vines steward gen: to Sir Ferdinando Georges; and James Fforrett Steward to the Lord Sterling, which was by them sold unto Mr. Thomas Mayhew of Martha's vinyard; these aftermentioned did purchase of Mr. Thomas Mayhew these rights: namely the patten right belonging to the Gentleman aforesaid and also the pcel of land which Mr. Mayhew did purchase of the Indians, at the west end of the Ile of Nantukket, as by their graunt or bill of sale will largely appear: with all the priviledges and appurtenances thereof: the aforementioned purchasers are Tristram Coffin Sen; Thomas Macy, Richard Swaine, Thomas Bernard, Peter Coffin, Christopher Hussey, Stephen Greenleafe, John Sawine and William Pile, the said Mr. Thomas Mayhew himself also became a Twentieth pt purchaser: so that they viz: Mr. Thomas Mayhew, Tristram Coffin Sen. Thomas Macy, Richard Swaine, Thomas Bernard, Peter Coffin, Christopher Hussey, Stephen Greenleafe, John Sawine and William Pile had the whole and sole interest, disposal, power and priviledge of the sd island and appurtenances thereof."

The first ten purchasers were allowed, each to invite a partner in the enterprise. William Pile sold his interest, one-half to John Bishop and the other to the Bunker children, whose mother had married Richard Swain. When this arrangement was completed the twenty owners were as follows:

Tristram Coffin,	Tristram Coffin, Jr.,
Thomas Macy,	Edward Starbuck,
Richard Swain,	John Smith,
Thomas Barnard,	Robert Barnard,
Peter Coffin,	Nathaniel Starbuck,
Christopher Hussey,	Robert Pike,
Stephen Greanleafe,	James Coffin,
John Swain,	Thomas Coleman,
John Bishop,	Bunker children,
Thomas Mayhew,	Thomas Look.

Sea

CRANBERRY  
MEADOW



BOUNDARY LINE  
ENGLISH  
1849



HOUSE-LOT SECTION  
1665 - 1680  
LOCATION APPROXIMATE  
ONLY -



The following records indicate that the removal to Nantucket took place between May 10 and July 15, 1661.

“May 10, 1661.

At a meeting at Salisbury it was ordered and concluded that the fore mentioned ptyes : viz. Tristram Coffin Sen. : Thomas Macy, Edward Starbuck, Thomas Bernard and Peter Ffoulger shall all measure and lay out all the rest of the lands both meadow wood and upland that is convenient to be appropriated within the bounds of the first plantation or township : also it is determined that ye above mentioned psons together with Mr. Mayhew, Richard Swaine, John Bishop or whatever other of the owners or purchasers that are there pr sent shall have power to determine what land is convenient to be imp'riated and lay'd out and what shall remaine common ; and also to lay out the bounds of the town and record it p'vided always that the land being measured : they shall first lay out a convenient quantity of land with suiteable accomodations of all sorts which shall be p'etually reserved for publique use of the Town.

At the same meeting it was ordered that for ye Pticular appointing which lot every man shall have it shall be done by cutting lots excepting only these psons that have already taken up their lots : as namely Thomas Macy, Tristram Coffin Sen : Edward Starbuck and Richard Swaine.

At the same meeting Robert Pyke was appointed to keep ye records concerning the Ile of Nantucket at Salisbury and Thomas Macy to keepe the records at the yland as in the above sd order expressed : at pr sent untill farther order be taken by the owners or purchasers.

July 15, 1661 :

At a meeting on Nantucket of the owners purchasers inhabiting Mr. Thomas Mayhew being pr sent and Peter



Ffoulger it was agreed and concluded that each man of the owners or purchasers shall have liberty to chuse his house lot on any place within ye limits not formerly taken up and that each house lot shall contain sixty rod square to a whole accomodation or share or the value of it."

These house lots comprised over 20 acres.

When the English settled on Nantucket they had the Mayhew deed and Indian deeds, that gave them the section west of Hummock Pond and north of a tract drawn from the north head of this pond to Monomoy. The section they selected for their house lots was near and on both sides of the chain of ponds from sea to sea.

At three periods in the early history of Nantucket it is possible to decide quite closely who were the inhabitants.

1. In July, 1661, when the settlers were drawing lots for house lots.

2. June 23, 1665, when all the sheep owners were ordered to select ear-marks for purposes of identifying sheep.

3. In August, 1678, when most of the inhabitants worked on the wreck of the French ship.

#### List of June 23, 1665.

Richard Swain,	Peter Folger,
John Swain, Jr.,	Stephen Coffin,
John Swaine,	Joseph Coleman,
Robert Barnard,	Richard Gardner,
Nathaniel Starbuck,	Eleazur Folger,
Captain Pyke,	Joseph Gardner,
Thomas Coleman,	Thomas Barnard,
Tristram Coffin, Sr.,	Nathaniel Barnard,
Peter Coffin,	Thomas Look,
Tristram Coffin, Jr.,	William Bunker,
James Coffin,	Samuel Bickford,

John Bishop,	John Coffin,
Thomas Carr,	Edward Cotter, (Cottle?)
Edward Starbuck,	Richard Pinkham,
Christopher Hussey,	John Trott,
Thomas Macy,	William Vaughn,
John Rolfe,	William Gayer.
William Worth,	

A list of sheep owners dated Sept. 3d, 1672, in addition to the above contains the names of John Hussey and Nathaniel Holland.

The list of those that worked on the French wreck in addition to names already mentioned are the following :

Stephen Hussey,	Tobias Coleman,
John Gardner,	William Rogers,
John Folger,	John Challenge,
	Moses Knapp.

When the purchasers were making arrangements to remove to Nantucket, they recognized the necessity of having the assistance of tradesmen who were skilled in the arts of weaving, building, milling and other pursuits. They secured the following :

Peter Folger, joiner, miller, interpreter.

Eleazer Folger, shoemaker and blacksmith.

Thomas Macy weaver ; Joseph Gardner, shoemaker,

Samuel Streeter, tailor ; William Worth, Joseph Coleman, John Gardner, Richard Gardner, and Nathaniel Holland, seamen. To each of these was granted a half share of land, providing they would reside at Nantucket and carry on the trade for not less than three years.

In the beginning, it should be understood that in giving the locality of the house lots of the early settlers, no more can be done than indicate a section more or less indefinite of dimensions over 1000 feet square, somewhere in which was located the homestead house. The difficulty in defining the limits is due to the fact that the bounds given

in the early layouts cannot be identified. Where the bounds are "swamp," "house," "fence," "rock," "hill," it is impossible to get a starting point. Frequently the relations of the lots to each other when examination of the map is had may suggest the location. This is the only way that the first house lots can be grouped around the swamp west of Hummock Pond. The fact should be kept in mind that the ownership of a house lot is no guarantee that there was always a house thereon. Houses were built almost anywhere by men who owned no land. And a man like Mayhew or Greenleaf who did not live on the Island had no use for one.

#### BARNARD.

*Robert Barnard* went from Amesbury. His wife was Joan Harvey. He never held any office; in 1668, he sold his Nantucket interest to his son John. He died in 1682 leaving two sons and three daughters.

*Thomas Barnard* was brother of Robert. His wife's first name was Eleanor. In 1675, he sold his Nantucket lands to his son Nathaniel. He died probably in Salisbury in 1677, sixty-five years old. While he was a resident of Nantucket for some years, he never held office and is not mentioned as being present at any of its meetings.

*Nathaniel Barnard*, son of Thomas, married Mary, the daughter of Robert. He died in 1719, leaving eleven children and the largest estate that had been reported, being over £3000. He was very prominent in town and public affairs, having been chosen many times to serve in all the important offices.

He was a trader, and the court records show that he was fined in 1709 for selling liquor to the Indians.

East of the Elihu Coleman house is the Mill-Brook, and a short distance further east, on the south side of the road near a cluster of Willow trees, was once a house which was the homestead of Thomas Barnard. Directly across the road lived Nathaniel Barnard. The present road was merely a path for many years later. The house lot of Thomas Barnard on which the house of Nathaniel was located was about 1000 feet square, and southwest of it was the lot of Robert Barnard. These lots extended northeast and southwest, and comprised 20 acres each. The house of Robert cannot be exactly located, neither can the bounds of the lots be identified. But the high land between the mill-brook swamp and the Indian Boundary line was substantially comprised within the two Barnard lots.

#### BICKFORD.

*Samuel Bickford* is mentioned in the court records as keeping a disorderly house. He was a land owner by purchase in 1676, in the region near No Bottom Pond. He was a field driver in 1676.

In 1678 he was fined for leaving his house first day and going off in company "adrinking."

He sold his land in 1679 to Tobias Coleman and his name is not again found in the records.

#### BISHOP.

*John Bishop* was a carpenter and went to Nantucket from Newbury. In 1677 he sold his house lot and share of land to Peter Coffin, and moved to Woodbridge, N. J. This first house lot was near the Lily Pond, but this he sold to Richard Gardner. Then he had a house lot containing about 20 acres on the west side of Reed Pond, and west of the house lot of Thomas Macy. He was one of

the first twenty purchasers, and was probably associated with them on account of his trade. He never held any town office.

#### BUNKER.

*George Bunker* and his wife Jane were of French origin and lived in Dover, N. H. He died May 16, 1658, leaving five children, and his widow, the next year, married Richard Swain, and the entire family moved to Nantucket.

William married Mary, daughter of Thomas Macy.

Elizabeth married Thomas Look.

Mary married Stephen Coffin, son of Tristram.

Ann, married Joseph Coleman, son of Thomas.

Martha, married Stephen Hussey.

*William Bunker* was born 1648 and died in Nantucket in 1712, leaving eleven children. In the first layout of house lots, being a minor, his part was included in the portion allotted to Richard Swain; but a few years later he was given ten acres north from No Bottom Pond. It was bounded on the north by the road which is West Chester street extended, and was the first road established, and on the west by land of William Worth. After William Bunker died, the proprietors gave his heirs land in place of that taken for a town house. This indicates that the localities marked for church, town house and jail, were correct. These three public buildings were placed on the hill north from No Bottom Pond. At the west end of this hill was erected the first schoolhouse mentioned in the records. In 1686, William Bunker was appointed to keep the jail. He was a selectman twice and was given the work of building a mill in which he failed, and the job was finished by Tristram Coffin.

## CARR.

*Thomas Carr* came from Salisbury but was not a land owner. His name does not appear in any subsequent proceeding. Over sixty years later a man of the same name died at Nantucket, but the records do not indicate whether they were related.

## CARTWRIGHT.

*Edward Cartwright* came from New Hampshire and settled at Nantucket about 1673, when he purchased the interest of William Worth on Pacomo, which was afterwards confirmed by an Indian deed. He married Ruth ——— and died 1705, leaving five children.

He never held any office and was often fined for drunkenness, assault, disturbing the peace, selling rum, and for controversies with his Indian neighbors. Cartwright lived in 1680 on the harbor southwest of John Swain's.

## COFFIN.

Reference may be had for the history of this family to the excellent work of Allen Coffin, Esq.

*Tristram Coffin's* house lot was a tract of the usual dimensions, bounded on the north by Cappam Harbor. He called this region Northam or Cappamet. The spot where his house was placed is marked by a stone monument.

*Tristram Coffin, Jr.*, was not connected with the history of Nantucket, but lived and died in Newbury. His house lot was directly west of his father's.

*Peter Coffin*, son of Tristram, by original grant and by purchase from John Bishop, finally owned the tract bounded by Thomas Macy's lot on the east and Tristram

Coffin's on the west and extending to the sea. In 1664, by a vote of the inhabitants, he was licensed to carry on trading with the islanders, and all others but "Nick Davis," who lived near the Atheneum were prohibited.

*Lieut. John Coffin*, son of Tristram, in 1677, was given, by his father, an interest in Nantucket. While at Nantucket he lived on his father's lot and at the death of the latter he removed to Marthas Vineyard where he died.

*James Coffin* was a man of high order of intellect, as is shown by the fact that he was over a dozen times elected selectman, was an assistant Magistrate, Judge of Probate and twice elected assessor, and was representative to the General Court. He had a warehouse east of the present Federal street. His house lot was on the hill to the westward of the Maxey's Pond. His house could be seen from the Parliament House about north. On the south of his house lot was that of Nathaniel Starbuck; according to the custome of those days, several of his children lived in houses near his own.

*Stephen Coffin* was a selectman over ten years, and received from his father in 1677 a deed of half of Tristram's land. He finally owned the whole of his father's house lot at Cappam Harbor. He was Pound Keeper probable because he lived near by. He was to have 2d each time he turned the key to lock or unlock the gate. His house was one of the two built by his father.

#### COLEMAN.

The following is from the records in Newbury in November, 1635. "Whereas Thomas Coleman was connected with Richard Saltonstall and other gentlemen in England and here for the keeping of horses and sheep in a general place for the space of three years, and now

since his coming thither has been negligent in discharging the trust committed to him, absenting himself for a long time from the said cattle and neglecting to provide for them by reason whereof many of said cattle are already dead and more damage likely to come to said gentlemen, it is therefore ordered that it shall be lawful for the said gentlemen to decide the oats and hay provided, among said cattle among themselves, and every one take care of their own during the winter."

Coleman moved from Newbury to Hampton, New Hampshire and afterward to Amesbury. He was probably invited to go to Nantucket because of his knowledge of sheep raising. Neither he nor his sons ever held any town office, but they were frequently directed by the town to take in charge matters relating to sheep and cattle.

His wife was Susanah. He died 1687, 85 years old, and left Tobias, Benjamin, Joseph, John, Isaac, Johanna, and Mary.

His house lot was 1000 feet square, bounded on the north by the lot of Christopher Hussey, on the east by the Long Woods and on the south by the lot of Capt. Pyke. Upon his decease, this house and lot descended to his son Tobias. This house lot was about half a mile southwest from the north head of the Hummock Pond, "Long Woods" nearest Trotts Swamp.

*Joseph Coleman*, son of Thomas was born 1642 and died 1690, leaving a daughter Ann who married Edward Allen of Piscataqua. Coleman married Ann Bunker, daughter of George. His house lot was located at the "High Cliff," which probably meant the section to the westward of the house of Charles O'Connor.

*Tobias Coleman*, son of Thomas, married Lydia, daughter of Margery Osborne. Upon the death of his



father he returned to Newbury, where he died. While at Nantucket he occupied his father's house lot.

*John Coleman*, another son of Thomas, married Joanna, daughter of Peter Folger and died 1715, at the age of 71, leaving eight children. His house lot was a little west of Elihu Coleman's house and extended southeast to Robert Barnard's, and comprised ten acres.

*Edward Cottle* came from Salisbury but was not included among the land owners.

*John Challenge* was frequently before the court for fighting in 1678. He bought part of a house lot of Tobias Coleman in 1685 and died shortly afterward. His wife was Jane, daughter of William Bunker.

#### FOLGER.

Reference may be had to the chapter on the Insurrection for much about the Folger family. Peter always wrote his name Peter ffolger. He died 1690, about 73 years old, leaving nine children.

He had a share of land granted to him in 1663, as a tradesman. His house lot is identified by a fountain erected to the honor of his daughter Bethia, the mother of Benjamin Franklin. It is on the extension of Main street, nearly two miles west from the bank. He was interpreter of the Indian language, miller, joiner and preacher.

*Eleazer Folger* was well versed in the Indian language. Several documents are on record in his handwriting in the language of the Indians. He married Sarah, the daughter of Richard Gardner. He died 1716, 68 years old, leaving seven children.

His house was located a few yards east of the Jethro Coffin house and was built not far from 1699. Jan. 3,

1699, he had a part of some swamps north of his house lot, set off to him.

*John Folger* was a son of Peter, and married Mary, daughter of Nathaniel Barnard. He was born on Marthas Vineyard, and died at Nantucket, 1732, leaving nine children. His home was at Polpis on the Fulling Mill Brook.

#### GARDNER.

*Thomas Gardner* settled at Salem, Massachusetts, about 1624.

His sons Richard and John became famous in the early history of Nantucket.

*Richard Gardner*, married Sarah Shattuck and died 1688, leaving nine children. His house lot was around Wesco now called Lily Pond, so irregular in form as to be called the "Crooked Record." His house was on the west end of Sunset Hill, where is now the residence of Eben W. Francis. He was chief magistrate in 1673 and held other town offices. None of the old records are in his handwriting, from which it may be inferred that he was not educated. His signature is that of an unskilled person. He came to Nantucket as a seaman in 1665, and his house was probably the easternmost of that day.

*Joseph Gardner* had a half share of land as a shoemaker, and settled in Nantucket in 1667. He was constable, assessor and selectman each once. He was a son of Richard and died 1701, leaving seven children. His wife was Bethia, daughter of Thomas Macy. He probably lived within the limits of the "Crooked Record."

*John Gardner*, called Capt. Gardner, married Priscilla Grafton. He died 1706, 82 years old, and left a widow and 12 children.

His house lot was on the north side of the road which is now called North street, and included 30 acres, and extended from the road to the cliff. It was west of the Hamblin house. The characteristics of Capt. John are described in the chapter on the Insurrection.

*William Gayer* was a master mariner and married Dorcas, daughter of Edward Starbuck. He died in 1710, leaving two daughters, Dorcas who married Jethro Starbuck, and Damaris, wife of Nathaniel Coffin. His will mentions a son by a former marriage. Gayer was many times selectman, magistrate and assessor. His penmanship is a model. He came from the nobility of England. His first house was at the north head of Hummock Pond, where his father-in-law had conveyed him a lot. In 1683, he bought the tract bounded by Ash, Center, Chester streets and the bank, and built a house near Chapman avenue.

*Stephen Greenleaf* married Elizabeth, daughter of Tristram Coffin, and lived in Newbury. In 1683 he sold half his interest to John Rolfe and the other half to Nathaniel Starbuck. The house lot drawn by him was north of Trott's Swamp.

*Nathaniel Holland* went to Nantucket in 1670 as a tailor. After staying there two years, he sold his estate to Capt. John Gardner and removed to Watertown.

#### HUSSEY.

*Christopher Hussey* lived and died in Hampton, N. H. Although one of the first purchasers, he never lived at Nantucket, and about 1671 he sold his lands to his sons John and Stephen.

*John Hussey* lived and died in Hampton in 1711, he sold his Nantucket lands to his brother Stephen.

*Stephen Hussey* was born in 1632 and died at Nantucket in 1718, leaving seven children. His wife was Martha, daughter of William Bunker. He received a good education and naturally took to law. Although it is not known that he was an admitted attorney. From the date when the Court records begin to his death there was seldom a session when he was not party or attorney. He lived in continual turmoil, although, singular to relate, he was one of the petitioners for a Friends Meeting, but he engaged in litigation with some of the members and was disowned in 1717. He was a master mariner, and sailed between Nantucket, Boston and New York. He was three times a constable and once selectman and assessor. He was convicted of smuggling ten gallons of rum, and his ten reasons of appeal show a very ingenious mind. He never failed to assert that justice could not be had on Nantucket because neither Judge nor Jury were entirely impartial.

He acquired the interest of his father, Robert Pike and others, and was the largest land owner of his day. The house lots assigned to Christopher Hussey and Robert Pike were on the west side of Trott's Swamp, but Stephen Hussey built three houses for himself and family, one on Federal street near Chestnut, another at Monomoy and a third at Shimmoo.

#### LOOK.

*Thomas Look* married Elizabeth, daughter of George Bunker. In 1677, Richard Swain sold to him his house and lot to take care of him.

Look never held any town office. About 1681 he sold all his lands at Nantucket and settled on Marthas Vineyard.

## MACY.

*Thomas Macy* selected his house lot on the east side of the Reed Pond, which was then a creek, and extended from the north shore south to the road. At his death this lot was occupied by his son John. Eastman Johnson is now the owner of this section.

Macy left an estate worth £71 but claims against it were established so that it was insolvent.

The genealogy of the Macy family contains further information.

## MAYHEW.

*Thomas Mayhew* was born in 1591, and died at Edgartown 1681. He had one son Thomas who was lost on a voyage on his way to England in 1657. All his lands were sold to his daughter Bethia Way, who sold the same to William Vaughn. Although Governor Mayhew exerted a powerful influence on the early history of Nantucket, he never lived there and had no habitation on the island. The house lot assigned him was north west of Trott's Swamp.

*William Pile* was the name of one of the original purchasers, and he is described as living in Dover, N. H. Shortly after the organization of the Nantucket settlers he conveyed his interest to Nathaniel Boulter, who at once deeded the same, one half to John Bishop and the other half to the children of George Bunker. The name "Pile" cannot be found in the Dover records or elsewhere, and it may be that he was a Frenchman and the name as above given was not correctly spelled.

*Richard Pinkham* came from Dover, N. H. He died in 1718. He married Mary, daughter of James Coffin,

and lived on land owned by his wife's father. His house was near Maxey's Pond and later on Federal street, near Pearl. He left nine children, of whom eight were sons.

#### PIKE.

*Major Robert Pike* who was a strong man in the History of Salisbury, was one of the first twenty owners of Nantucket but he never resided on the island. The house lot assigned to him was on the west side of Hummock Pond.

After an unsatisfactory experience with Tristram Coffin and Christopher Hussey in 1703, he sold his interest in Nantucket to Stephen Hussey.

#### ROBERT PIKE.

“In the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England :

To whom these presents may come, Robert pike of Salsbury as above sendeth greeting; know ye that whereas there hath some differanse arissen betwixt Stephen Hussey of Nantucket and myself concerning a Share of land upon nantucket which I formerly contracted with his father Christopher Hussey of hampton about When the first proceeding about the settling of the Iland nantucket were carrying on, Capt. Christopher Hussey at that time being about the year 1659 or 1660 or 61, did admit and take me in as partner with him in what then claime he had of the island of nantucket and the condition of our agreement.——made betwixt us was that if I the sd Robert pike should well and truly pay or discharge the sd Capt. Christopher hussey eight pounds being the charge which the sd hussey was out for one share or half what claime in nantucket he then made which was two shares or the tenth or leaveneth part of sd iland that then I should have hold possess occupy and for ever peaceably enjoy as of my demesne in fee or share of lands as above

in order to the payment of which eight pounds I payed three pounds to the company's order and I did think that I had answered the other five pounds howbeit Trustion Coffin, Senr, of Nantucket, as I came lately by Stephen Hussey to understand did sometime within three or four year after the English were settled upon the sd Iland of Nantucket take by way of distress from Capt. Christopher Hussey's Estate the sum of five pounds and did never so much as inform either my self or Capt. Hussey in his life time, whereby I had no opportunity so much as to distress Capt. Hussey before he had conveyed his land out of his hand; Trustrom Coffin then declairing that he took the sd five pounds from Capt. Hussey for my debt, as I was partner with him the sd Hussey; So that as I never payed five pound of the eight so neither did Capt. hussey know anything but that I had payed the money, whereby I was made to forfeit my condition made about the sd share of land above sd and neither Capt. hussey nor myself know of it and I can claime no more neither in law or equity then the proposition of what I payd and in Capt. Stephen hussey who I understand hath brought his father's right will acquit his claime in halfe a share and suffer my assigns quietly to possess and enjoy it: I shall set down there with content demissing, releasing and acquiting any claime made by me, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to anything relating to Nantucket or anything that hath bin depending betwixt his father and myself as touching any bargains covenants conditions alinations or partnership what so ever, to the day of the date of these presents relating to what is above written; to all which that is above written. I have set to my hand and affixed my Seal in the Second year of her Majestie's Reigne and in the year of our Lord 1703 or the 28th day of august one thousand Seaven hundred and three as before.

Robert Pike. (Seal)"

## SAVAGE.

*John Savage* was granted half a share of land as a cooper in 1672. He sold his land to Wm. Worth and moved away in 1674. His house lot was between No Bottom Pond and Crooked Lane.

## ROGERS.

*William Rogers* married Martha, daughter of Robert Barnard who conveyed to him 10 acres of land in 1678.

He never held any office, and about 1678 sold his lands on Nantucket and his name does not again appear on the records.

## ROLFE.

*John Rolfe* came from Salisbury and owned half a share of land from Stephen Greenleaf.

In 1678 he sold his land to James Coffin and left the island.

His house lot was adjoining Thomas Macy's on the east.

## SMITH.

*John Smith* had a house lot between that of Tristram Coffin, Jr. and the North Cranberry Swamp. In 1674 he sold half his land to Stephen Hussey and half to John Coffin and moved away to Taunton. He was a brother in law to Stephen Hussey.

## STARBUCK.

*Edward Starbuck* came from Dover, N. H. He was an elder of the local church and was disciplined on account of his views on the subject of baptism. Thomas Macy who was also in discord with the local church took Starbuck as a partner. The latter was at Nantucket



during June and July 1659, and assisted in procuring the first Indian deed. He was on the island at times during the next two years and occupied a house which he had built at Maddaket. This gave rise to the story that the first site of the town was at the west end. He was a man of considerable influence, and was once candidate for Chief Magistrate. He was born in 1604 and died in 1690. His wife was Catharine Reynolds. He left four children only one of whom was a son. Edward Starbuck's house lot was about 1000 feet square, extending northward from the head of Hummock Pond to Maxey's Pond. His other children were :

Dorcas married Wm. Gayer,  
Sarah married Benjamin Austin,  
Abigail married Peter Coffin.

He seems to have been held in great esteem among the inhabitants.

In 1685 he conveyed half his lands to his son Nathaniel and the other half to his son in law, Wm. Gayer.

*Nathaniel Starbuck*, only son of Edward, was born 1634 and died at Nantucket 1719, leaving ten children. He married Mary, daughter of Tristram Coffin.

He was one of the strong men among the settlers and would have received more credit but for the superior intellect of his wife,—the great Mary Starbuck, who was certainly the founder of the Friends Meeting on Nantucket. Although her husband was “a man of no mean parts, she far exceeded him in soundness of judgment, clearness of understanding and in an elegant and natural way of expressing herself.”

There is no character in the early history of Nantucket that so appeals to the imagination. But little remains except a single letter and the testimony of the pioneer Friends Ministers.

She died in 1717, having beheld the formation of the Nantucket monthly meeting of Friends.

The house of Nathaniel and Mary Starbuck was erected near his house lot but on a spot a short distance south east which was afterwards set off to him. It was a large house of capacity sufficient for meetings, both religious and municipal, and was called the "Parliament House." It was located a few feet west of the present Cornish Barn and was placed near the spring. The house lot of Nathaniel Starbuck was on the north west of the swamp, bounded north by that of James Coffin and south by the swamp and south west by the lot of Thomas Mayhew. By purchase from Greenleaf and others and by set off, Nathaniel Starbuck acquired a large tract around the north head of Hummock Pond. It is now comprised in the Cambridge farm.

#### STREETER.

*Samuel Streeter* come from Gloucester as a tailor. He was appointed in 1669 to transact some business with the Indians. A man by this name was drowned shortly afterward at the Vineyard and his name disappears from the records. His house lot which was granted to him was probably forfeited as he did not reside three years on the island.

#### SWAIN.

*Richard Swain* come from Dover, N. H., where he had married Jane Bunker, widow of George. He was born 1601 and died 1682. He was not an educated man and his signatures are by mark.

His house lot was on both sides of the cove formed by the north westerly extension of Hummock Pond. He never held any town office but performed labor for the town in

relation to sheep and cattle. He was married before coming to America and had four children by that marriage. The wife Jane, had two children, John and Richard. The latter it is said moved to New Jersey but he was administrator of his father's estate.

*John Swain*, son of Richard, was born 1633 and died 1717. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Wyer. He was once highway surveyor, four times assessor and once assistant magistrate. His house lot was on the north of his father and he probably lived there until his father's death, although he had a house at Polpis in 1677.

In 1680 he had bought land of the Indians at Poatpes, now called Polpis which was confirmed by the Governor at New York in 1684. He sold all his land near Hummock Pond including his house in 1687. His children were :

Mary married Joseph Nason who had built a house on Swain's west share in 1682.

Stephen married Experience, daughter of Peter Folger.

Sarah married Joseph Norton.

Joseph married Mary Sibley.

Elizabeth married Joseph Saville, also spelled Chevalier.

Benjamin married Mary Taylor.

Hannah married James Tallman.

Patience married Samuel Gardner, son of James.

John Swain was licensed by the town in Oct. 1677 to operate a Filling Mill near his house at Poatpes.

#### TROTT.

*John Trott* bought land at Nantucket in 1682. He owned land in the Long Woods. He died 1728, leaving Tabitha, Joseph, Rachel, John, Benjamin, James, Mary, Abigail, and Priscilla. He never held any town office.

## VAUGHN.

*William Vaughn* was always called Major. He took no active part at Nantucket and never lived there. He belonged at Portsmouth, N. H., and was in the Indian war with Capt. Pike. He retained his Nantucket lands until his death in 1720, when they were sold by his heirs. His house lot was bounded east by that of Nathaniel Starbuck and was that which he bought from Thomas Mayhew.

## WORTH.

The usual tradition about three brothers coming over is true of this family. Lionel and William went to Salisbury and the other to that part of New Jersey along the Raritan River. William was born about 1640 and went to Nantucket where he married Sarah, daughter of Thomas Macy. They had one child John. After her death, William Worth married twice, but had no other children. He died 1724, having been five times selectman, three times assistant magistrate, four times assessor and many years Clerk of the Court.

*John Worth*, born 1666, married Miriam Gardner, daughter of Richard, and from this marriage came the Nantucket Worths. After her death he married two Vineyard women and from them came the other branch. He died in Edgartown, 1731.

He came to Nantucket as a sailor and received a half share of land as a tradesman in 1662. He had a fair education as will appear from the early records, much of which is in his writing. There were no clergymen at Nantucket during the first half century after it was settled and marriages were solemnized by Justices of the Peace. William Worth is reported to have been the magistrate at most of the marriages for many years before

his death. Thomas Macy sold him 1-4 of 1-2 a share of land in 1676.

His house lot was in the No Bottom Pond section, and bounded north by the Old Road, west by Crooked Lane. This lot extended from the Old Road south to the Main street extension. Grove Lane was cut through later.

#### WYER.

*Nathaniel Wyer* who was called Goodman Wyer married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Swain. He never took any part in the affairs at Nantucket. He died March 1, 1681, fifty years old, leaving an estate which was the first ever inventoried on the island. Sarah Wyer was appointed administrator. The inventory of the estate was £35, and among the articles were 1 Bible and 5 other books. His real estate was valued at £5.

His land was five acres in extent on the west side of Goodman Wyer's Pond, which is probably the present Maxey's Pond. Also five acres on west side of John Swain's lot, west of Hummock Pond. His daughter Mary married John Swain. This name was spelled in a variety of forms: Wyer, Wire, Waer, Ware, Weare, Weir, being the same name.

If a north and south line be drawn through Wesco, now called Lily Pond, the section east was divided into three sections, known to the early settlers as follows: The part north of West Chester street was called North Shore, that further south to the present location of the Town House was known as Wesco and the section still further south was named Monomoy. The meadows between Union street and the Asylum were called Quausue.

The locality near Thomas Macy's place was called Wannacomet. Tristram Coffin named his locality Cap-

pam or Northam, and the Starbuck farm was called Waquittaquage.

It is an interesting and difficult question to decide when a majority of the land owners moved from the Pond Country to Wesco. Richard Gardner and his family always lived around Wesco Pond.

The records indicate that while in 1682 Cappam Harbor was open and the account of a Quaker visiting the island intimates that this condition was existing in 1701, yet in 1720 a plan of the Tristram Coffin house lot shows that it was then Cappam Pond. During the interim the harbor has been separated from the sea. As the leading motive in settling at Cappamet was to be near a harbor, when this ceased to exist there would be a strong inducement to remove to the other harbor. About 1717 there was considerable activity in land transfers around the west end of the harbor, indicating the commencement of the change.

In 1678 Wesco Acre lots were set off. This section comprised 20 acres bounded by Federal, Liberty, Quince, Gay and Broad streets. This section was divided east and west into twenty strips, 80 rods long and 2 rods wide. This gave each strip an end on the harbor.

Center street was laid out when the division was made. The streets Quince, Hussey, Pearl and Rose Lane were laid out many years later. When this division was made Stephen Hussey had a house between Federal and Center streets near Chestnut and Nic. Davis had a house on Federal street farther south. The water extended to Federal and North Water streets.

When Wesco Acre lots were divided the section bounded by Broad, Center, Chester and North Water streets were allotted south to Thomas Macy: then next north William Worth: then John Gardner to Chester street.

In 1683 the William Worth and John Gardner interests were deeded to William Gayer and the latter built near the location of the Veranda House.

From this date until 1717, there is no indication of purchases in this section. But about this time and during the next few years, all the land included in the present town limits was divided, and this is probably the time when the great number of inhabitants settled around the harbor. The Fish lot section, bounded by Union, Main, and Pine streets was laid out in 1722 and Monomoy, next south, was laid out in 1726.

Owing to the fact that there was a change from Cap-pamet to Wesco about 1720, there are in the latter locality few houses built before that time except such as might have been erected on the land of Richard or John Gardner.

The Jethro Coffin house built in 1686 was on land that belonged to Capt. John Gardner. The Eleazer Folger house near by was built not far from 1699: and the house of Richard Gardner 3d now owned by Peter Brock about 1725.

The Drew house on Hussey street was built by Abel Gardner about 1733.

The Nye house on Liberty street was built about 1743 by Silvanus Allen a son in law of Jethro Starbuck.

The Josiah Coffin house at North shore was erected in 1724 by Capt. Josiah, and has remained in the family since.

Wesco, Fish-lots and Monomoy were rapidly built up subsequent to 1720. The houses in the locality first selected were destroyed or removed before 1800. A map drawn and filed in the Registry of Deeds, in 1821 delineates the roads laid out in that section directly west of the present town. Toward the west where the purchasers of of Nantucket established their houses were only four,

three of which, Jethro Folger's, Daniel Allen's and the Newbegin's, have since disappeared, the one remaining being that of Elihu Coleman's, and possibly none of which were ever seen by the first settlers. Houses are destroyed or removed and there is no trace left on the records.

Tradition says that material from Thomas Macy's house at Wannacommet is in the house which was erected on the corner of Liberty street and Walnut Lane and that of the Parliament House, the house of Mary and Nathaniel Starbuck was moved down to the corner of Pine and School streets and was owned by the late James Dustin. The sand storm and the rain have destroyed all marks of these houses and except occasional relics of brick or glass or chance excavation disclosing an old foundation, all identifications have been lost.



## CHAPTER V.

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### *Their Government.*

The first settlers went to a land where no form of government had been established. The island was under some nominal control of New York, but little attention was paid to it. Consequently when the English purchased Nantucket, they carried with them the English common law, and as far as applicable, it was not difficult of enforcement. Crimes were punished by Mayhew and his associate judges, but there was a large class of offenses growing out of the presence of the Indians, that were not mentioned in any legal code. The attempt to found a grazing community where rights of pasturage were to be held in common in large tracts of land, developed a phase of relations, that had existed previously in England, but on a less extensive scale. These new conditions soon required regulations. There was no colonial government to enact the necessary laws, and so the land owners were their own legislature and court.

When they arrived at Nantucket, the adult male population was confined to the first purchasers. At once arrangements were necessary in relation to house lots, Indians, mills, and local affairs. There was no town or municipality—and no provision concerning the qualification of voters. As long as the land owners comprised the male population, no regulation was demanded. But this question was certain to arise, and in 1663, there was a meeting “of the inhabitants and freeholders, and it was determined and concluded that all orders that concern the prudential affairs on ye iland shall be enacted and con-

cluded so as to stand authentick by the voice of all the present inhabitants, *being freholders*, that either are or shall be dwelling here, provided, that if any person being legally warned shall not by his absence nullify or hinder the proceeding." Here was stated the qualification. The voter must be an inhabitant and land owner. This provision was never repealed. Nantucket was annexed to the Province of Massachusetts in 1692. The records indicate that the "land qualification" was in force until that date, and for many years later the town meetings are called meetings of the "Freeholders," and the town continued to deal with land until 1716, when the town as a Corporate Body and the land owners as a Proprietary were separated. The admission of residents to town meetings, regardless of the foregoing qualification, was gradual and probably not complete until about 1716.

During these years when the government was in the control of the land owners, only such persons could hold office.

No religious qualification was ever required, and until 1716 any mention of religion appears only twice in the records. In 1680, Capt. John Gardner was accused of forbidding some Quakers holding a meeting on the island. In 1678 some men were fined for going out in company on the Lord's Day. No mention of any kindred subject is found until 1716, when the Meeting House is designated as one of the places for posting notice of town meetings. Appropriations for support of the Minister, so common in records of Massachusetts towns, are lacking at Nantucket.

Only occasionally do the records indicate where town meetings were held; no doubt at first the houses of the land owners were occupied.

In 1667 there is mention of a meeting in the "Parliament House," which was the residence of Nathaniel and Mary Starbuck. Meetings were also held at the houses of

Nathaniel Barnard and Geo. Bunker, and at Wesco in the house of Richard Gardner. The town voted in April, 1707, to have the town house repaired, and Jan., 1716, the town voted to build a town house 34x24 on the hill between William Stratton's and George Bunker's, near the house of the former and notifications of meeting were to be posted on the Town House and Meeting House. This location was between No Bottom Pond and the road called West Chester street. The location of the first town house cannot be identified. Possibly the facts that about this time a larger house was needed and the land owners had separated from the town in managing their affairs, may indicate that near this date the Freeholders ceased to control town affairs and others were admitted according to the laws of the Province. Thus from the date of the settlement, the Nantucket land owners continued what was in fact, a town government until they obtained the Lovelace Patent, dated June 28, 1671. This was not only a grant of the island to Coffin and Macy and their associates, but it constituted them "an entire enfranchised township, with like and equal privileges with any town, but in all matters to be ruled, ordered and directed according to instructions allready as to be hereafter given."

According to order dated April 18, 1673, the town was named *Sherborne*.

The instructions for the government of Nantucket followed a petition of the inhabitants and were supplemented by others two years later.

PROPOSALS TO YE GOVERNOR FROM YE INHABITANTS OF  
NANTUCKETT ABOUT SETTLING THAT GOVERNMENT.

*Imprimis*, Wee humbly propose Liberty for ye Inhabitants to chuse annually a Man or Men to be Chiefe in ye Goverment, and chosen or appointed by his Honor to

Stand in place, constantly invested with Power of Confirmation by Oath or Engagement, or otherwise as his Honor shall appoint, one to be Chiefe in ye Cort and to have Magistraticall Power at all times with regard to ye Peace and other necessary Consideracions.

2ly. Wee take for granted yt ye Lawes of England are Standard of Government, soe farre as wee know them, and are suitable to our Condicion; yet wee humbly propose that ye Inhabitants may have Power to Constitute such Law or Orders as are necessary and suitable to or Condicon not repugnant to ye Lawes of England.

3ly. In point of carrying on ye Government from Time to Time, wee are willing to joyne with or Neighbor Island ye Vineyard, to keep together one Cort every Yeare, one Yeare at or Island, ye next with them, and Power at Home to End all Cases not exceeding 20 lb; And in all cases Liberty of Appeal to ye Generall Court in all Actions above 40 lb; And in all Actions amounting to ye vallue of 100 lb. Liberty of Appeale to his Highness his Court at ye City of New York; And in Capital Cases, or such Matters as concerne Life, Limbe, or Banishment. All such cases to be tryed at New Yorke.

4. And feeling ye Indyans are numerous among us, Wee propose that our Government may Extend to them, and Power to Summon them to our Courts with respect to Matters of Trespass, Debt, and other Miscarriages, and to Try and Judge them according to Lawes, when published amongst them.

And lastly, some Military power committed to us, respecting our Defence, either in respect of Indyans or Strangers invading etc.

#### THE ANSWER TO YE NANTUCKET PROPOSALS.

At a Councell held at Forte James in New York, ye 28th day of June in ye 23rd years of his Ma'ties Reigne, Annoq Dom. 1671.

In Answer to ye Proposals Delivered in by Mr. Coffin and Mr. Macy on ye behalf of themselves and ye rest of ye Inhabitants upon ye Island Nantuckett: The Governor and Councill doe give their Resolutions as followeth, vizt:

*Imprimis*, As to ye first Branch in their Proposals, It is thought fitt yt ye Inhabitants doe annually recomend two persons to the Governor, out of ye which hee will Nominate one to be ye Chiefe Magistrate upon that Island, and ye Island of Tuckanuckett near adjacent for ye Yeare ensuing; who shall by Commission bee Invested with Power accordingly.

That ye Time when such a Magistrate shall Enter into his Employment after ye Expiracion of this first Yeare, shall Commence upon ye 13th day of October, being his Royall Highness his Birthday, to continue for ye Space of one whole Yeare, and that they Return ye Names of ye two Persons they shall recommend three months before that Time to ye Governor.

That ye Inhabitants have Power by a Major Vote annually to Elect and Chuse their inferior officers, both Civil and Military; That is to say, ye Assistants, Constables, and other Inferior Officers for ye Civil Government, and such inferiour Officers for ye Military as shall be thought needful.

2ly. The second Proposal is allowed of; That they shall have Liberty to make peculiar Lawes and Orders at their General Court for the well Government of ye Inhabitants ye wch shall bee in force amongst them for one whole Yeare; Dureing wch Time if noe Inconvenience doe appeare therein, They are to Transmitt the said Lawes or Orders to ye Governor for his Confirmacion. However, they are (as neare as may bee) to conforme themselves to ye Lawes of England, and to be very cautious they doe not Act in any way repugnant to them.

3ly. To ye 3d, It is Granted, That they joyne with their Neighbors of Martin's Vineyard in keeping a Generall Court between them once a Yeare, ye said Court to be held one Yeare in one Island, and ye next in ye other, which ye Chiefe Magistrate in each Island where the Court shall be held, is to preside, and to Sitt in their respective Courts as Presid't but withall That upon all occasions hee Consuel and Advize with ye Chiefe Magistrate of ye other Island.

That ye said Generall Court shall consist of ye two Chiefe Magistrates of both Islands, and ye foure Assistants, where ye Presid't shall have a Casting voyce; for ye Time of their Meeting, That it bee left to themselves to Agree upon ye most convenient Season of ye Yeare.

That in their Private Courts at Home, wch are to be held by ye Chiefe Magistrate and two Assistants where ye Chiefe Magistrate shall have but a single Voyce, They shall have Power finally to determine and decide all Cases not exceeding ye Vallue of 5 lb. without Appeale, but in any Summe above that Vallue, They have Liberty of Appeale to their Generall Court who may determine absolutely any Case under 50 lb. without Appeale, but if it shall exceed that Sume, ye Party aggrieved may have Recourse by way of Appeale to ye Generall Court of Assizes, held in New Yorke.

And as to Criminal Cases, That they have Power both at their Private Courts at Home, as well as at ye Generall Court, to inflict punishment on Offenders soe farre as Whipping, Stocks and Pilloring, or other Publick Shame. But if ye Crime happen to bee of a higher nature, where Life, Limbe or Banishment are concerned, That such Matters be Transmitted to ye Generall Court of Assizes likewise.

4. In Answer to ye 4th, It is left to themselves to Order those Affayres about ye Indyans, and to Act therein

according to their best discretions, soe farr as Life is not concerned; Wherein they are also to have Recourse to New Yorke, but that they bee carefull to use such moderacon amongst them, That they bee not exasperated, but by Degrees may be brought to be conformable to ye Lawes; To wch End, They are to Nominate and appoint Constables amongst them who may have staves with ye King's Armes upon them, the better to keep their People in Awe and good Order, as is practized with good success amongst ye Indyans at ye East end of Long Island.

To ye Last, That they return a Lyst of ye Inhabitants, as also ye Names of two Persons amongst them; out of whom ye Governor will appoint one to bee their Chiefe Military Officer. That they may be in ye better capacity to Defend themselves against their Enemyes, whether Indyans or others.

#### NANTUCKET AFFAYRES.

Additional Instructions and Directions for the Government of the Island Nantuckett, sent by Mr. Richard and Capt. Jno. Gardner, April ye 18, 1673.

*Imprimis*, That in regard ye Towne upon ye Island of Nantuckett is not known by any peculiar or particular Name. It shall from henceforth bee called and distinguished in all Deeds, Records and Writings by the Name of the Town of Sherborne upon the Island Nantuckett.

That all Ancient and Obsolete Deeds, Grants, Writings, or Conveyances of Lands upon the said Island, shall bee esteemed of noe fforce or Vilidity, but the Records of everyones Clayme or Interest shall beare Date from the first Divulging of the Patent granted to the Inhabitants by Authority of his Royall Highness and soe forward, but not before the Date thereof.

That the Time of Election of the Chiefe Magistrate, and other Civil Officers, bee and continue according to the

Directions and Instructions already given, but in regard of the Distance of the Place, and ye uncertainty of Conveyance betwixt that and this Place, ye Chiefe Magistrate, and all the Civil Officers shall continue in their Employments untill the Returne of the Governor's Choice and Approbacon of a new Magistrate bee sent unto them, which is to be with the first convenient Opportunity.

That in case of Mortality, if it shall please God, the Chiefe Magistrate shall dye before ye Expiration of his Employment, the Assistants for the Time being shall manage and carry on ye Affayres of the Public until the Time of the new Election, and ye Governor's Returne and Approbation of a new Magistrate in his Stead.

That the Chiefe Military Officer shall continue in his Employment during the Governor's pleasure, and that he have Power to appoint such Persons for inferior Officers as he shall judge most fitt and capable.

That in case of the Death of the Chiefe Military Officer during the Time of his Employment, that then the Inhabitants doe forthwith make Choice of two Persons, and return their Names unto the Governour, who will appoint one of them to bee the Officer in his Stead.

That in regard to ye Generall Court to bee held in ye Island Nantuckett or Martin's Vineyard is but once in ye Yeare, where all Causes or Actions are tryable without Appeale to ye Sume of fifty Pounds. Liberty bee granted to try all Actions of Debt or Trespass at their ordinary Courts to the value of ten Pounds without Appeale, unless upon Occasion of Error in ye Proceedings there bee cause of Complaint from ye ordinary Court unto the Generall Court, or from the Generall Court to the Court of Assizes.

That what is granted in the Generall Patent to the Inhabitants, ffreeholders, of the Island Nantuckett is to bee understood, unto them alone who live upon the Place



and make improvement thereof, or such others who having Pretences of Interest shall come to Inhabit there.

Given under my hand at Fort James, in New York, the Day and Yeare afore written; in ye 25th yeare of his Majesty's Reigne.

The records show that the purchasers reached Nantucket between May 10, 1661 and the 15th of the following July.

The first business was that of drawing lots for houses.

Sept. 1662 it was ordered that the land which had been sold to the Indians should pay 5 shillings per week.

12-1663.

It was agreed and concluded that all men that have Cattell or any other estate on the yland shall be lyable to pay all necessary publike charges; as well those that Inhabit not on ye yland as those that Inhabit.

At the same meeting an order was made that no man shall fell or make use of any timber on Cowatu except it be for building houses upon the penalty of ten shillings for every tree impred to any other use. It is farther ordered that if any inhabitant have any other necessary occasion for timber there he shall not make use of any but by liberty from the town.

Feb 12, 1663.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the yland it was ordered and concluded that a rate of fourty shillings shall be pay'd with respect to ye Constable in corn or goods within one week.

The same day it was ordered and concluded that warning shall be given to all the Indians to kill all the dogs among them; and it is hereby concluded that if any dog or dogs be found alive after 10 days that the owner of such dog or dogs shall pay to ye English 20-s. every dog.

March 1, 1663 :

The same day it was agreed that John Coleman shall have land layd out on the north side of the lot of Robbert Bernard for ye use of the sd John Coleman his ffather Thomas Coleman haveing given halfe his accommodations on ye yland half the house lot to be layd out in the place before mentioned for John Coleman the aforesd Thomas Coleman doth lay downe one-halfe of his lot already layd out.

Thomas Macy doth engage himself as one of the number of tradesmen as namely to supply the occasions of the yland in the trade of weaveing for ye benefit of the Inhabitants as well as of himselfe and hath a tradesman's share of accommodation graunted to him in consideration thereof; answerable to William Worth and ye rest.

Also it is hereby graunted liberty to any Inhabitant to make use of timber there to make folds for sheepe or goats.

Sept. 1664.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants Richard Swaine and Thomas Coleman were chosen surveyors of the highways for ye yeere insuing;—the aforesaid surveighors are empowered to give legall warning to all the Inhabitants to appr on such day or days as they sd occasion and to fine any man not apping on the day they appointt 2s 6d, except lawfull excuse be made.

September  
2, 1664.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants an order was agreed on to allow Peter Coffin liberty to trade on this yland at present, and to phibit all others except Nic. Davis, to trade one hundred bushels of corne when he comes or sends to gather in his debts.

Sept. '64.

At a meeting of the town at wesquo it was agreed that the clerk shall have for his wages twenty shillings p Ann. beginning at ye yeere 62.

Sept. 7, 1664.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants it was agreed and concluded that the lot layers shall be payd four pence p acre for their laying out the lots at wesquo.

October, 1664.

At a town meeting It was agreed and concluded that of any land or any pt of this yland be fired by the Indians so that the land or grasse be burnt to any considerable value as to a quarter of a mile or more, the Indians in what jurisdiction soever it be, shall be fined 20 pounds, except it be in the moneth of April.

October, 1665.

At a legall meeting on Nantukket agreed and concluded to build a horse mill on the yland with all convenient space and to this end to levie the summe of 50 lbs. on the estates of the purchasers and Inhabitants to be payd in wheat or barley at price currant or neat cattle prised by indifferent men, or such other pay as shall sute the occasion, to be payd at or before the first of October next to be raised by an equal rate: And if any of the purchasers or owners not at present inhabiting here shall refuse to pay their pportion according to ye rate the Inhabitants do agree and conclude that no man inhabiting on the yland shall from thenceforth take any charge of the cattel of the pson or psons so refusing under the penalty of ten pounds. And for ye carrying on of this worke John Bishop is appointed undertaker and overseer and to take the worke

of such men of the Inhabitants as he shall think meet and the Inhabitants are hereby engaged to attend the worke according to his appointment John Rolfe and Thomas Macy are appointed to gather thaforsd rate for ye end aforementioned. The pportion is fourty shillings to a whole share.

At a meeting of Nantukket the Inhabitants agreed to dig a trench to drain the Long pond both with regard to a weare for taking fish and also for making meadow, the worke is to be carryed on thus the one halfe of the worke to be done by the Indians and the other halfe by the English Inhabitants or owners, the Indians to have half the fish so long as they attend the weare carefully and honestly.

March, 1666.

Upon further consideration it was decided to build a tide mill instead of a horse mill.

Feb. 15, 1667. Every Indian to kill his dogs before March 10, or be fined; and Nathaniel Barnard and Isaac Coleman were chosen with the Indians Obadiah and Washaman to carry this order into effect.

1668. William Bunker engaged to maintain a mill and to have two quarts for every bushel he grinds.

At the same meeting, no more green wood shall be fallen in the Long Woods except what was taken for rails and fence.

An order was made that henceforth no timber shall be fallen for building except in the first two weeks of June.

- July 13, 1668. The commons shall be "stinted" at the rate of 40 head of neat cattle to a share, and one horse to be equal to two cows.
- The Clerk was to receive from each freeholder 12 pence per year.
- Aug. 14, 1668. All who have an interest on the Island, whether residents or not, to pay their share of the public expenses.
- Nov. 11, 1668. The inhabitants who have upland shall pay their taxes for the mill or their land shall be taken.
- Jan. 16, 1668. The Indians living on Pawquomok Neck shall pay 5-s up to the present date, and shall pay 5-s a week as long as they stay on said Neck.
- Feb. 12, 1668. Nathaniel Starbuck and Nathaniel Barnard were to travel over the commons, and if any man were pasturing more cattle than his proportion allowed they were to enforce the fine.
- Feb. 12, 1668. Thomas Tray was fined 30-s for the trespass of his horse on the commons. At his request it was reduced to 15-s on condition that he pay at once. He was in default, and Thomas Macy was ordered to collect the 30-s by taking Tray's horse.
1669. The Inhabitants were ordered to keep a smaller number of animals on the common, as it was found by experience that

“horses are like to be the ruine of the neat cattle, and the multitude of goats very hurtful.”

May 10, 1669. If any Indians hurt and disturb cattle to be fined 5-s and “for proof hereof either Indian or English testimony shall suffice.”

June 29, 1669. The Island to be cleared of horses, and the same be taken off the Island before the last of November next.

No horse shall be sold to any Indian.

40 sheep or goats were allowed to be kept on the commons for one share.

July 23, 1669. Each owner of a whole share shall sow a bushel of grass seed on the common each year.

No Indian to carry off wood from any part of the land purchased by the English.

Sept. 17, 1669. Persons pasturing horses on the commons to prove their right.

Oct. 17, 1669. Wreck goods found on the shore to be carefully held for the Owners, and shall be kept a year and a day before being disposed of. And Indians and Englishmen shall give notice to the prudential men of all wrecks.

Oct. 17, 1669. William Bunker was to receive the first payment for keeping the mill, which was to be three pounds, before the middle of April.

Nov. 20, 1669. The prudential men were authorized to lay out highways.

A bargain was made with Nathaniel Barnard and John Coffin to build a pound before the end of next June, to be paid for from the taxes. It was to be built near Cuppamet and to be four rods square. (A pound is an enclosure provided for imprisoning animals that are straying away from the owner. It is usual that a fine shall be paid before the animals are returned to the owner.)

John Rolfe and John Swaine were chosen "surveighers of the fences" and to examine all fences and order them to be repaired when insufficient.

Three prudential men are to be chosen to manage the government of both English and Indians.

Thomas Coleman and John Rolfe to view the sheep and rams and order the owners to dispose of such as are not fit to be kept.

Joseph Gardner and the clerk to examine all cattle carried off the Island.

Stephen Coffin to keep the pound "when once there is a lock to it, and he is to have two pence a time for turning the key to lock or unlock the pound."

If any man alters the ear-mark in a sheep, although it be his own, without notice to the prudential men, he shall be fined.

- Jan. 23, 1670. Edward Starbuck, John Swaine, Nathaniel Starbuck and William Worth to make a pair of mill-stones and bring them to the mill; they to be paid in corn at harvest at the rate of two shillings and sixpence a day for each.
- Mch 20, 1671. Nathaniel Starbuck, John Swaine, Nathaniel Barnard and John Coffin to report on the number of cattle pasturing on the common.
- Land owners to be responsible for the maintenance of any persons they invite to live on Nantucket.
- Mch 6, 1670. A wild dog seen about the town for several years if killed within a week 30-s to be paid; if after two weeks 25-s.
- Mch 6, 1670. Edward Starbuck and Thomas Macy, with Tristram Coffin as an associate, under objection of Richard Swaine, were given license to maintain a fishing weir in Long Pond.
- June 24, 1670. The taxes should be levied one-half on land and the other half on stock without consideration of sheep or goats.
- July 18, 1670. Regulation about goats and lambs being carried to Tuckanuck and Coatue.



- July 28, 1670. The prices for the year were to be  
 Wheat, 4-s per bushel ;  
 Barley, 3-s 6-pence per bushel.  
 Rye, 3-s “  
 Indian corn, 2-s 8-pence “  
 Any man fined for selling over or under  
 these prices.
- Aug. 1670. Inhabitants fined for not attending meet-  
 ings.  
 No Indian servant to be brought to any  
 English on the Island.
1670. No horse or colt to be landed on Nan-  
 tucket under penalty of ten pounds.  
 A half share of land was to be granted  
 to any man who would build a mill, and  
 William Bunker undertook to do the same  
 against the objection of Tristram Coffin.
- Nov. 30, 1670. No hogs to be placed upon any land be-  
 longing to any Indiand.
- Apr. 7, 1671. Thomas Macy, Edward Starbuck, John  
 Rolfe and Peter Folger were chosen to  
 complete the assessment of taxes.
- Oct. 16, 1671. Thomas Macy was to have five pounds for  
 going to New York.
- June 8, 1671. John Swaine, Nathaniel Starbuck and  
 Eleazer Folger were to go among the  
 Indians and arrange with them for the  
 damage done their Indian corn by the  
 English cattle.

- July 9, 1671. Goats to be brought to the pound to be counted.
- Jan. 1, 1672. All house-lots between Cuppame harbor and Richard Swaine's To be fenced.
- Jan. 1, 1672. Arrangements to be made with some person to superintend the cattle at Cuppame beach at South Shore.
- Wauwinnet, son of Nickanoose, hath liberty to buy a horse.
- April 4, 1672. Nathaniel Barnard and William Bunker to carry all steers to Cotuit next Tuesday.
- Dec. 6, 1672. A town meeting to be called if any two freeholders shall request the same.
- Aug. 3, 1672. Sheep and rams to be marked before the 15th of November.
- No cattle to be transported from the Island before examination of the prudential men.
- No more goats to be kept upon the Island, and 20 sheep to be apportioned to each share.
- Jeptha hath liberty to buy a horse.
- Mch. 23, 1672. Thomas Coleman to keep cattle upon the plain at the rate of eighteenpence a day.
- Nathaniel Starbuck and John Coffin to arrange with Indians or Englishmen what is needful about keeping the cattle at the end of Thomas Coleman's time.

Mch. 9, 1672. Each sheep owner was given a wool mark, which was in addition to the ear-mark.

1675. The following prudential orders were adopted.

1. Every inhabitant to be fined eighteen pence for non attendance at town meeting.
2. Turbulent and disorderly behaviour in town meeting punished by fine.
3. Thirteen persons to be a quorum.
4. All dogs more than four months old shall be muzzled, or his owner could be fined.
5. No pig or hogs should be left without guard of some sufficient fence.

Three of the Selectmen or two of them and one Freeholder could call a Meeting of the town.

1675. Any person "leagally warned," come not to meeting within one hour after the time appointed, shall pay 18 pence "if wel and on the iland." Turbulent and disorderly persons at town meetings may be fined for first offence 5s: for 2nd 10s. and 20s. for third.

That no person or member of the town shal directly or indirectly entertayn any person Except as a stranger or way faring man or woman, without leave, had and obtayned from the town that so the town may secure themselves from charg, but if any shal notwithstanding intertayn any

except as aforesayd they shal pay for every days intertaynment so Given 20-s to be improved for publike Use.

That no person shall Receive any person into the town as a Tenant in house or land, but he shal give security to the town to free the town from publike charg with such Tenant. Under the penalty of 40-s for every Weeke's neglect, to be improved to publike use.

All hogs to be marked with the owner's name.

No inhabitant to entertain any person except as a stranger or wayfaring man, without leave, so that the town may secure themselves from charge.

No inhabitant shall receive any person into the town as a tenant in his house or land before he shall give security to the town for the charge of such person.

Aug. 2, 1680. Any man cutting grass on the common to pay two shillings per load.

June 17, 1778. John Gardner, John Coffin and Nathaniel Barnard elected prudential men. They were to make rates, see that the commons were fenced, the pound repaired, and that all rams be carried off and brought on in season, and to superintend the grazing.

Jan. 9, 1679. If any man legally chosen refuses to be an assistant, to be fined three pounds.

Joseph Coleman engaged to warn the town for one year, for 16-s to be paid from the taxes.

Jan 19, 1679. The town meeting was held at the house of Nathaniel Barnard.

Nov. 10, 1679. The new mill-stones to be paid out of the public taxes, and the dam to be repaired at the charge of the town.

Nov. 10, 1679. Voted that the scow shall be mended at the charge of the town.

At the same meeting Sarah Needfeld was ordered to be sent to her home in Plymouth County unless somebody would be responsible for her maintenance.

Aug. 2, 1680. Any unmarked sheep may be killed or the finder shall have them.



## CHAPTER VI.

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### *The Courts.*

Book No. 2 in the Register of Deeds contains the earliest records of a Court on Nantucket. The first case is dated Sept. 21, 1672, in which John Savage sues Jephtha the Indian for a debt. This was ten years after the settlers had reached the Island. It cannot be assumed that during this decade the inhabitants needed no Court, that sailors coming in trading vessels and the Indians unfamiliar with the Anglo Saxon legal code should exhibit conduct which never required punishment. Indeed a stray item appears in Book No. 1 to the effect that Feb. 12, 1668, Thomas Tray had been fined thirty pounds for allowing his horse to go on the Commons. Consequently it may be inferred that there was some sort of a Court before 1672. But if such Courts had records, they are either lost or destroyed.

When Peter Folger was imprisoned, as described in the Chapter on the Insurrection, Tristram Coffin complained that Folger had the Small Book of the Courts, and from this it is clear that there was a large Record Book which must have been Book No. 2, but that there was a Small Book containing Court Records. Quite likely it may have recorded proceedings before 1672. This book would be of inestimable value for investigating the relations of the early settlers among themselves, but no mention of the book is found since the time when Peter Folger was in jail for concealing it. So it may never be known how the first Court was constituted; who was the Judge and Clerk. But this much is certain, that in 1671

the administration of the law which had been observed for ten years was found inadequate to the requirements of the Island population and a communication dated June 28, 1671, was forwarded to the Authorities in New York for a change, and a reply was received, in which a system of Courts was arranged which continued in force until Nantucket was annexed to the Province of Massachusetts. It was essentially an elective Judiciary with a term of office of one year. Reference may be had to the Lovelace Instructions.

The first election for Magistrates was held April 15, 1672, and the names of Edward Starbuck and Richard Gardner were submitted to the Gov. at New York, and Richard Gardner was chosen by the Governor.

Thomas Macy was the next Chief Magistrate.

Tristram Coffin the third and Capt. John Gardner the fourth.

Assistant Justices were: Peter Coffin, Lieutenant; John Coffin, Nathaniel Barnard, John Swain, William Gayer, Eleazer Folger, William Worth, Capt. John Gardner and James Coffin.

Peter Folger was appointed Clerk 1673, and after the Insurrection William Worth.

It is impossible to determine where the Courts were convened, but a few of the references state that they were held in the house of the Chief Magistrate, but probably when it was in repair, they used the Town House.

A careful observer of the Court Records will notice that in nearly nine tenths of the cases either Stephen Hussey or some Indian was a party, and if these were omitted from the calculation, the Court would not have had an average of one case per year.

A discussion of the Indian cases will be given in the chapter on the Indians. A large proportion of the cases



in which Stephen Hussey appears as a party were against Indians in action of debt.

The Court exercised jurisdiction over all matters civil, criminal, probate and appeal from Indian Courts in which the penalty did not involve forfeiture of life. It is recorded that in the history of Nantucket several Indians were executed for murder, but no white man. In the early days the crimes of Englishmen were mostly confined to cases of drunkenness and breaches of the peace. The penalties were fines, imprisonments, whipping and the stocks.

In Dec. 1673, a company of sailors were convicted of "contemning of the kings Authority in drawing other men to deliver a man by force out of the hands of authority," and were punished by fine and whipping. They were John Glover, Richard Goodridge, Edward Case, Philip Tucker, William Peprill, William Pierce, Edward Bennett, Nicholas Payn, Andrew Samson and Edward Cowles.

Stephen Hussey charged with "contempt and presumption" in saying to Captain Gardner "meddle with your own business, I gave him leave for his hogs to do so." At the trial Stephen was convicted not only of this offence but in "disorderly speaking in Court, charging the Court presumptuously." He had accused the Magistrate who took some depositions in neglecting to write down all the witness said. He was fined thirty shillings for the offence and forty for contempt of Court.

Thomas Look was a field driver and had impounded some of Nathaniel Starbuck's cattle which the latter removed unlawfully. The owner was fined thirty shillings and fees of Look who was called a "heyward."

Edward Cartwright's first experience in Court occurred in Dec. 1676, when he was accused of "speaking contemptuous words against authority. He was admonished and ordered to pay the fees of the Clerk."

Nov. 16, 1676 the Court hired William Bunker to keep

the prison for one year and agreed to pay him "foeur pounds halfe in wheat the other in other graine."

The location of the prison or jail can be approximately determined. There is a tradition that it was located on rising ground near the roadside northeast of No Bottom Pond in the same locality with the Town House and Meeting House. It is known that William Bunker lived very near this place, and that the public buildings were on land afterwards owned by one Bunker. The location fixed by the Historical Association is correct.

John Challenge was found guilty of fighting March, 1678, and later was admonished.

The first appointment of an administrator took place in May, 1678, when Stephen Hussey administered on the estate of Peter Rolfe.

In 1678 Edward Cartwright was convicted of being drunk and paid a fine of ten shillings.

Samuel Bickford was admonished "for being from his home in company adrinckinge on the first day."

June 1679 James Skiffe and Edward Cartwright were convicted of fighting near the house of Thomas Look and at the house of James Coffin and were fined ten shillings each, although the next month Skiffe was chosen marshall.

September 1679, Dennis Manning was fined five shillings and ordered "in the stocks on our trayning day," "for being drunck or inordinate drincking."

December 1679, Stephen Hussey was accused of cutting down and carrying away timber from "Maskotuck." John Swaine, Eleazer Folger, Joseph Gardner and John Macy refused to serve on the Jury. The result is not recorded.

The first inventory was that of the estate of Nathaniel Wier in which appeared "an old bibell and five other books."

Steven Hussey was fined 20 shillings for reproachful words spoken of the constable and overseers, when the

officers seized liquor that he was attempting to smuggle. Later he was fined £10 for contempt of Court.

John Swaine had been arrested for striking Nathaniel Gardner and he appeared and "ingeniously acknowledged the offence and was sorry and the Court took satisfaction."

Edward Cartwright was fined £5 in August, 1682, for "Retayling strong drinck to the Indians."

During the year 1683 the Court had plenty of business. Stephen Hussey sued Joseph Gardner the constable for unlawfully seizing ten gallons of rum. Gardner's defence was that Hussey was attempting to land it without paying duty. Later Hussey lost his case.

A man named "Mr. Robert Guttridge" was fined for selling rum several times.

Joseph Coleman had spoken "contemptious" words against authority and had to pay a fine.

Mary Nason had stolen some goods from a warehouse, consisting of some "linning" cloth according to her confession, she was fined £3 or be "whipt." Later the fine was reduced.

Sept. 1686 Ralph Earl was fined £25 for carrying away "Racked goods," such as pork and "dear scines."

The town was ordered to build a prison within three months.

In Oct. 1694, Edward Allen was fined "for selling rum to the Ingions."

May 1695, there was some arrangement about alarming the inhabitants at the approach of enemies, possibly the French.

Stephen Hussey did not appear at an alarm and the sentence of the Court was that he "would proouer on good fier lock goon for his Majestis servis for the town. It being the first time Stephen Hussey desired time to consider, and it was granted." He neglected to procure

the gun and was fined £5 or imprisonment for three months.

In March, 1697, Mary Mason paid "ten shilens" for breach of the Peace, and Edward Cartwright recovered ten shillings against Stephen Pease "about a mare."

The last session at which any Englishmen appeared before the establishment of the Court of Common Pleas in 1720, was in Oct. 1717.

Nathan Folger and Jeremiah Gardner were licensed "to retail strong drink and they gave bonds in the sum of £5."

Jonathan Pinkham was constable and his duty led him to search the house of Stephen Pease for strong drink, but "Pease took an ax in his hands and swore he would cleave him down if he came to search his house, and uttered many profane oaths." Pease was fined 10 shillings and placed under bonds "for his good behavior."

The last case of Stephen Hussey was decided at this term.

It was brought against James Coffin, Stephen Coffin and James Gardner because they impounded 95 of Hussey's sheep which he claimed he had a right to pasture where they were arrested. The defendants raised some technical objections and the case was dismissed.

Stephen Hussey died the next spring and was buried in the cemetery controlled by the Friends whose views he and John Swain his brother in law seem to have adopted as early as April, 1682, when they refused to qualify as selectmen by "swearing," and as there was no law for affirmation, the town chose Nathaniel Barnard and Stephen Coffin in their places. Like the stormy petrel, Hussey was always the harbinger of strife and commotion. In his will he specifically bequeathed his law library to his son Bachilor for the use of his son Stephen when he should become of age.

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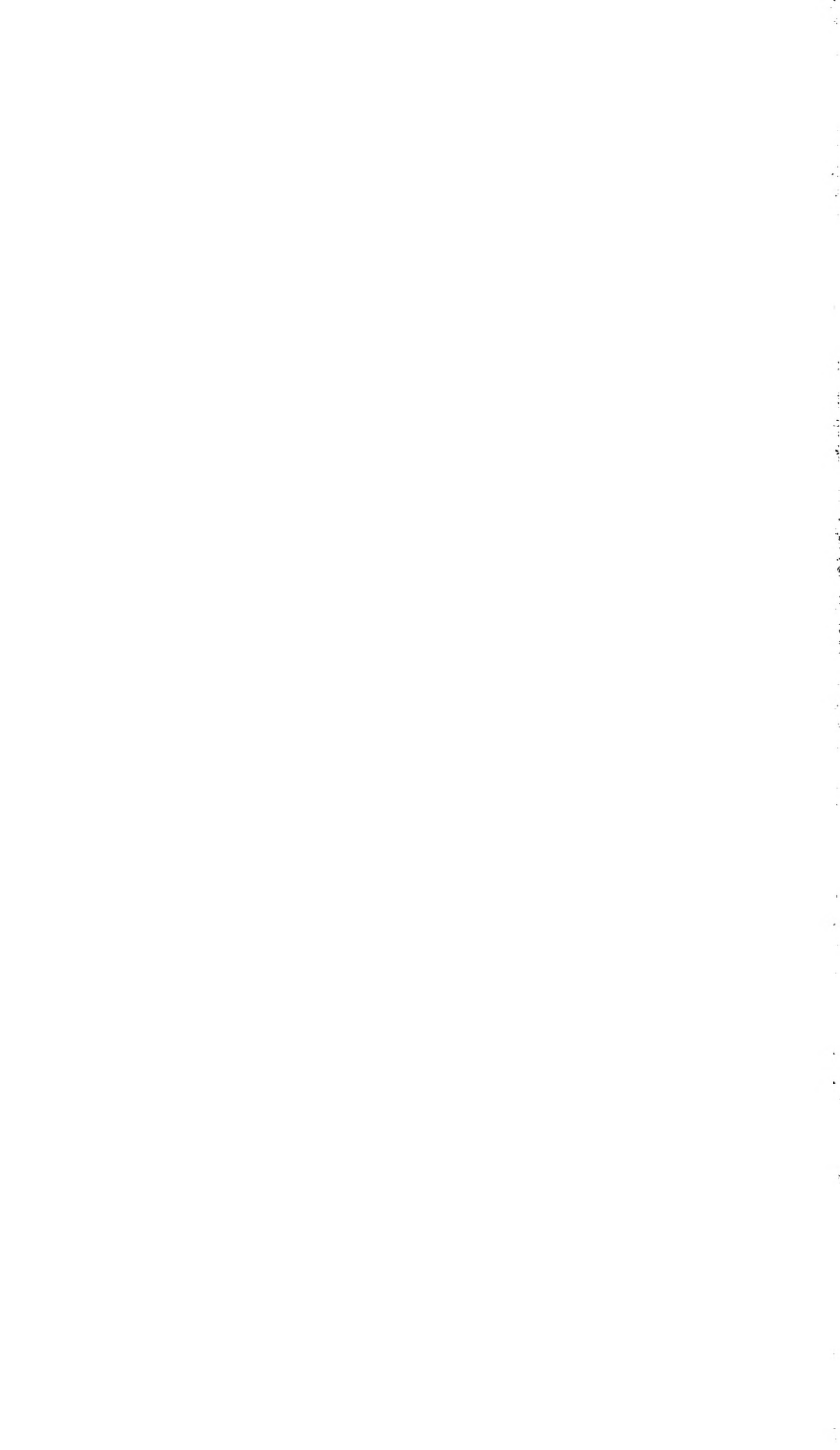
Nantucket Lands and  
Land Owners

BY

HENRY BARNARD WORTH

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## CHAPTER VII.

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### *The Nantucket Indians.*

The North American Indians had no written language and consequently no land titles that were based on documents. They had no inheritance, and property did not pass from parents to child. Whatever interest they had in land depended on occupation and it was difficult to understand just in what this title consisted, for they had no permanent location but roamed about at will unless checked by a hostile tribe. The English undoubtedly found trouble in determining who were the owners of the land.

Among the tribes on Nantucket two seemed to hold the dominant position; their sachems were Nickanoose and Wanackmamack. On account of their control over the rest of the Nantucket Indians these two men were considered head sachems; they were analagous to Kings and as the English King claimed the first title to land, so the English recognized a similar right in these sachems. From them, deeds were sought and they conveyed what was called "a sachem right." Just what this amounted to is now hard to decide, but at most was equivalent to this: that these sachems would guarantee that no Indian would ever afterwards claim the land from the English; it was not a title from a recognized owner, but a title that the sachems would not allow to be disturbed.

Mayhew had sold Nantucket to the first settlers previous to February, 1659, but the deed was not delivered until the next July. No explanation has ever been given of this fact, but it may have been the agreement that

before the deed should be delivered Mayhew should acquire some right from the Indian sachems. Previous to this time he had never succeeded in obtaining any Indian deed of Nantucket.

In May, 1659, certain of the Englishmen visited Nantucket for the purpose of obtaining a deed or deeds from the Indians. At this time success crowned their efforts. They obtained a deed dated June 20th, 1659, from the sachems Nickanoose and Nanahuma of a tract comprising the section of Nantucket west of Hummock Pond. George Nanahuma was the sachem of the Indians that lived in this section, but Nickanoose held some sway over him and joined in the conveyance. The first deed is as follows :

THE FIRST INDIAN DEED.

Nantucket Registry Book 4, page 93.

This doth witness that we Nickanoose of Nantucket, sachem, and Nanahuma, of Nantucket, sachem, have sold unto Thomas Mayhew of the Vineyard, the plain at the west end of Nantucket that is according to the figure under written, to him and his heirs and assigns forever. In consideration whereof we have received by earnest of the said Thomas Mayhew the sum of twelve pounds. Also the said sachems have sold the said Mayhew of the Vineyard the use of the meadow and to take wood for the use of him the said Mayhew his heirs and assigns forever.

In witness hereof, we the sachems aforesaid have hereunto set our hands this 20th of June, 1659.

The said Acamy lyeth north and by east and south by west or near it.


NICKANOOSE, + his  
mark.

NANAHUMA,  $\diamond$  his  
mark.



Witness hereunto :

MR. HARRY,

  
his mark.

JOHN COLEMAN,

THOMAS MACY,

TRISTRAM COFFIN.

It appears that at this date Thomas Macy, Tristram Coffin and John Coleman were at Nantucket.

In 1671 it became necessary to procure a new patent from Governor Lovelace. But this he would not issue unless a new deed was obtained from the sachems and a receipt showing that the consideration was paid.

Received of Tristram Coffin, of Nantucket, the just sum or five poun, which is part of the seven pound that was unpaid of the twenty pound purchase of land, that was purchased of Wanackmanack and Neckanoose, that is to say, from Monomoy to Waquettaquage pond, Nanahumack neck, and all from Wesco westward to the west end of Nantucket, I say, received by me, Wanackmamak, of Tristram Coffin, five pounds Sterling, the 18th, 11 M., 1671.

The X Mark of  
WANACKMAMAK.

Witness hereunto :

RICHARD GARDNER,

ELEZER FOLGER.

#### INDIAN DEED OF NANTUCKET.

These presents witness, that I, Wanackmamck, Head Sachem of the Island of Nantucket, have bargained and sold, and do by these presents bargain and sell unto Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy, Richard Swayne, Thomas Bernard, John Swayne, Mr. Thomas Mayhew, Edward

Starbuck, Peter Coffin, James Coffin, Stephen Greenleaf, Tristram Coffin, Junior, Thomas Coleman, Robert Bernard, Christopher Hussey, Robert Pike, John Smith and John Bishop, these Islands of Nantucket, namely, all the west end of the aforesaid Island unto the pond commonly called Waquittaquay, and from the head of that pond to the north side of the Island Manamoy; bounded by a path from the head of the pond aforesaid to Manamoy; as also a Neck at the east end of the Island called Poquomock, with the property thereof, and all the royalties, privileges and immunities thereto belonging, or whatsoever right I, the aforesaid Wanackmak, have or have had in the same. That is, all the lands afore mentioned, and likewise the winter seed of the whole Island from the end of an Indian harvest until planting time, or the first of May, from year to year forever; as likewise liberty to make use of wood and timber on all parts of the Island; and likewise half of the meadows and marshes on all parts of the Island, without or beside the aforesaid tracts of land purchased; and likewise the use of the other half of the meadows and marshes, as long as the aforesaid English, their heirs or assigns live on the Island; and likewise I, the aforesaid Wanackmamack, do sell unto the English aforementioned the property of the rest of the Island belonging unto me, for and in consideration of forty pounds already received by me or other by my consent or order.

To have and to hold the aforesaid tracts of land with the proprietary, royalties, immunities, privileges and all appurtenances thereunto belonging to them the aforesaid purchasers, their heirs and assigns forever.

In Witness Whereof, I the aforesaid Wanackmamack have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

The sign of WANACK-MAMACK.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

PETER FOULGER,  
ELEAZER FOULGER,  
DORCAS STARBUCK.

After the English had bought the Island from Mayhew they purchased, as fast as possible, whatever rights the Indians were willing to sell. Sometimes these were sachem rights and at other times were rights leased on possession. The next deed to the English was dated May 10, 1660, and is signed by Nickanoose and Wanackmamack, and their title seems to be as Head sachems. It conveyed their right to all the Island west of Waquittaquay [Hummock] Pond and all north of a line drawn from the head of that Pond, eastward to Wheeler's Creek which is now called the Creek; also the right to pasture all over the island from Harvest time to May 1st. For this the English paid £26. Peter Folger and Edward Starbuck were present.

DEED OF WANACKMAMACK.

This Witnesseth, that I, Wanochmamack, chief sachem of Nantucket, hath sold unto Mr. Tristram Coffin and Thomas Macy, their heirs and assigns, that whole nack of land called by the Indians, Pacummohquah, being at the east end of Nantucket, for and in consideration of five pounds to be paid to me in English goods or otherwise to my content by the said Tristram Coffin aforesaid at convenient time as shall be demanded.

Witness my hand or mark this 22 of June, 1662.

WANACKMAMAK.

Witness hereto :

PETER FOLGER,  
And WAWINNESIT whose English name is AMOS.

By these deeds the English acquired from the Indians about one-third of the Island.

In order that the deeds hereafter mentioned may be better understood reference may be had to the map compiled by Dr. F. C. Ewer. He states that the territory of Potcomet, alias Pottacohannet, extended not only to the small islands west of Nantucket, but also as far east as Capaum pond. There is doubt whether the sachem exercised any control outside of the islands. The deed of Nanahuma indicates that at that time he was sachem over the west end of Nantucket, and no other Indian deed has ever been found covering this section.

The three sachems who controlled the remainder of the Island were,

Attapehat, died before 1689.

Nicornoose died between 1677 and 1684.

Wanackmamack died before 1684.

For further use in comprehending the Indian deeds the pedigrees will be stated of each of these three sachems: Their descendants are as follows:

Attapehat, alias Autopcat and Autopscot, had a son Masauquet, who had a son Harry Poritan, alias Beretan, who had a son Isaac Masauquet.

Nickornoose had four sons, Isaac Wauwinet, Wat Noose, Paul Noose and Joshua Jethro, and a daughter, who married Spotso.

Wanack-mamack had son Saucoauso, alias Jeptha, who had two sons, Cain and Abel, and the former had Jemima, wife of James Shea, and the latter two sons, Ben Abel and Eben Abel.

Before giving the abstract of the Indian deeds the statement should be made that in all probability Nickanoose died previous to 1677, as that is the date of the earliest deed of his son Isaac, and no deed appears signed by him after that date. It should further be noticed that Nickanoose signed deeds only of territory belonging to some other sachem; the fact is true of Wanackmamack.

Neither signed a deed of any portion of the territory under his direct control. The sachem Attapehat as far as has been found, never signed any deed.

July 7, 1664. Pakapessa Jonas Harry and Lemmo sell to the English company all the fields belonging to the Neck called Nanahuma's Neck, for 25 pounds.

These Indians were probably residents of the region which lies directly west of Hummock Pond.

Aug. 11, 1664. Tequamomany and Mekowakim sell to the English for fifteen pounds all the broken land lying between Wanacomet and Waquitaquay, and from thence to Monomoy, all within the English bounds.

They were residents of the section between Capaum Pond and the harbor.

June 5, 1667. Whereas Peteson Mr. Larry Ahkeramo with Obadiah and George Nanahuma have made complaint to this Court that whereas the sachems had sold the land they formerly lived on to the English the said sachems would not entertain them on the land unsold.

The Court do now order that the sachems Wanackmamack and Nickanoose shall allow to the said gentlemen as follows :

Peteson and George Nanahumo 20 acres apiece in the bounds of Nickanoose, and to Mr. Larry, Ahkeramo, and Obadiah

shall have 20 acres apiece in the bounds of Wenackmamack without paying any tribute to the said sachems. But wood they shall have anywhere not generally prohibited.

The parties declare themselves well satisfied and contented therewith.

All the other Indians who formerly inhabited the west end of the Island the sachems shall entertain to live in the land unsold as the Indians and common people do within their precincts.

June 20, 1672. Ordered by the Court that in relation and answer, to the petition of Mr. Larry in respect of himself and other Indians formerly inhabiting the west end of the Island of Nantucket, that the said Indians shall have convenient places for habitation upon the land yet unsold which they shall hold with such rights and privileges as they held their former lands, and for the present year ensuing they shall live under the government of the sachems without paying any tribute and likewise hereafter unless at the next general Court the sachems shall show and prove that they were accustomed heretofore, when the English came and had such right of receiving custom and tribute and such lands as aforesaid shall be taken reputed and be so properly their own as

never to be sold from them nor their heirs forever unless by their own and the sachem's consent.

1673. Wequakesuk, sachem, to John and Richard Gardner, upland and meadow east of the creek called Shawkemo, and on the south by the Reed Spring.
1674. Wauwinnet, son of Nickanoose, one-half creek stuff west of Masquatuck, to Stephen Hussey.
1674. Wauwinnet, to William Worth for Inhabitants four acres at Coatue.

April 21, 1674.

Obadiah the Indian complains against Spotso that he will neither divide nor set off that land that is in partnership between them. The sentence of the Court is for the plaintiff, that he hath right to a quarter-part; that Spotso hath three weeks liberty given him to set out to Obadiah his part, and if he doth not thent the Court will appoint it out.

The Court sitting the 12th of May, Obadiah complains that Spotso will not divide him any part of land.

The Court hath therefore ordered a division and bounded it; the bounds is thus;—Bounded at the east with the spring at Shimmo; from thence unto the cartway at the south end at Monomoy that lies in a little valley there; and on the north and west with the harbor; and from the cartway at Monomoy aforesaid unto Wakataaquage Pond, that part of it as is halfe way between the brook running into said pond a little to the southward of the house of Edward Starbuck and the beach at the

south sea; and so joining on the north unto the English bounds.

It is further agreed that Spotso has still liberty to divide the aforesaid land that was in partnership between them within one month into four equal parts, and Obadiah hath liberty to choose which of them four parts he will. Obadiah sold his part to the town.

Jan. 15, 1678. Sossockque or Jeptha to the town, the tract bounded on the north by the Great Harbor, on the east a line drawn from a tree now the bounds of Pocomak, and from thence to the old bounds of Pocomak lying by the Great Harbor.

1686. Soccoch or Jeptha to Stephen Hussey, the island in Gibb's Pond between the house of James Cowkeeper and the house of John Dequaine.

June 5, 1677. Nickanoose to his two brothers, Heattohanen and Wohwaninwot all his lands and drift whales.

June 1678. At a General Court.  
Ordered that whereas at the last General Court holden at Nantucket June 5, 1677, certain of the lands unsold by the Indian sachems was to be partly occupied and partly put into the possession of sundry Indians in said order expressed, and if said Indians with the sachems can come to no agreement therein, then Mr. Tristram Coffin, Mr. Thomas Macy, Mr. William Worth and Mr. John Coffin have full power and authority to view and lay



out convenient tracts of land and deliver the same to the persons interested therein respectively according to said order.

Ordered that Moosaquit shall have the like privilege of government within his precincts as the other sachems have in theirs yet so far as to be subject to the English government.

- Dec. 1678. Wauwinnet to Edward Cartwright one-half an acre near the Cartwright house.
- June 24, 1678. George Nanahuma alias Cowpohanet to the English all his interest in the west plains and to the Neck or long woods.
- Dec. 28, 1678. Wat Noose to Edward Cartwright one-half acre of marsh.
- Oct. 14, 1676. Wat Noose to Edward Cartwright one acre near the Run.
- April 6, 1679. Wauwinnet to Edward Cartwright a piece of swampy land to the southward of Cartwright's house, lying in a straight line from John Swain's bridge to the corner of the ditch at Pompasson's land as may appear by the marks and from the said corner of the ditch on a straight line to the run of water in the swamp to the northward.
1682. The sachems granted one acre of land to Richard Gardner "Where his stage now standeth at Sisickechar, at John Swain's stage."

1684. Jephtha and Wauwinnet were the two sachems ruling the territories at the east end of the Island; they entered into an agreement with the English as to what should constitute the bounds of the English lands. This was done for the purpose of exhibiting the same to Thomas Dongan who was then Gov. of New York, in order that he might understand what lands were to be covered by the patent which he issued at that time. The following are the bounds.

Soosoah and Wauwinnet, Sachems, acknowledge that the English owned as follows, and the deed was witnessed by John Gardner, William Worth, William Bunker, John Macy, Eleazur Folger and Matthew Mayhew.

The bounds of the lands should be as aforesaid, and

*First:* From the head of Wauquittaquage Pond or Mr. Starbuck's Pond, and from there by a pond to Monomay or Mr. Macy's meadow: with all the woods to the westward of said Pond and north and then northward to the English's aforesaid.

*Secondly:* From the head or spring of Shawkimo and from thence by a straight line or by a path unto Shawkenes or the snake place all the lands to the northward and eastward to the river and to the English's.

*Thirdly:* All the neck of land called Poncammooncoe, being bounded from the head of the creek at Poatpos or at Watt's bounds; and by a straight line to the bounds on the north side by the river as 'tis now bounded with all the land to the southward and westward.

*Fourthly:* All the neck of land called Coatuet, being the north-east point of Nantucket and bounded on the south at the nearest distance from the sea unto the head of the great harbor and the great harbor on the west and

south and the sea on the north and east and inclusively according to the bounds we Soawcoe and Wauwinet do acknowledge to belong unto the English aforesaid except what dead whales shall be cast on shore, that to belong to the Indians according to former custom.

Further we do acknowledge to one half of all the rest of the meadows on the Island to have been sold and do belong to the English on any part of the Island belonging unto us as also further that there is liberty for the winter feeding on the whole Island for all sorts of cattle from the end of the Indian Harvest unto planting time or the first of May.

1687. Spotso to Stephen Hussey, a certain tract of land called by the Indians Aquidnose and is bounded by a hill all along from the head of the westernmost branch of the creek that goeth in or towards Shimmo over to the shore which faces the harbor, and so down to low water mark, which said hill fronting the harbor cometh a little to the southward of a valley called by the Indians Cocyeania, having on said hills several holes dug from the head of said creek to the water side over the neck against the harbor. It contained 18 acres.

1687. Sasapana Will to Stephen Hussey. Land on the south side of the Run as you go through Pocomo toward coatu called by the Indians Masquopect at the water side or south of said creek, and goeth up said Creek to the cart path and so up to a swamp. 1560 acres.

May 1690. Spotso to the town, a tract of land on the

south by the sea on the west with land of Mosawquet, that is to say, from the middle of the south end of Weeweder Pond on a straight line to a pit in the ground about eight paces from the town gate; on the north by the harbor except 20 acres of Coddude at Mamre.

This is a strip between south shore and the harbor south-east of the town.

Feb. 1692. Spotso to the town.—A tract the first bound at Monomoy a hole 20 rods from the bank westward on the English line and from said hole on a straight line unto the well on Mana and from thence on a straight line to the westward side of Mattaquitchame Pond to the sea, and on the east by Jeptha's bounds; on the south and north by the sea.

This tract will be recognized as the section from the harbor to the south shore west of Saul's Hills.

Apr. 29, 1701. Henry Britten, Sachem, to the Inhabitants: a tract on the east by Myacommet Pond from the sea or beech to the wading place; from thence by a swamp lying north-easterly 80 poles to a ditch, and from thence to Mycommet bars, and from thence by the town fence until you come to the English bounds near the town gate; on the south by the sea and on the west and north-west by the English.

Apr. 1702. Henry Britten sells to the town other land at Myacommet.

- July 1, 1690. Jeptha to the town; A tract on the west by the land of Spotso, being from the spring at Shimmo unto the bounds agreed on by Jeptha and Spotso, near unto Mattaquatcham on the south by the sea, on the east from the westward end of the great valley at Chappapemeset called Pasocho and from thence on a straight line unto a swampy slew or pond by the highway near Masquatuck.
- Nov. 3, 1691. Jeptha alias Saucauoco; A tract to the town on the south and south-west to a great stone lying and being at old Siasconsett and 20 rods from the clift and north to Sanckotuck.
- Jan. 20, 1708. Askommopoo widow of Spotso to her son Josiah, all interest in the Island.
- Sept. 2, 1709. Eastor, an Indian woman, wife of Jeptha to Stephen Hussey for the Freeholders all interest in lands of her husband.
1709. Spotso to Eleazur Folger one horse commons.
- March 1, 1709. Askammopoo, sister and heir of Wauwinnet to her natural son Josiah Spotso, three-quarters of all the land which came from Wauwinnet.
1715. Daniel Spotso to Inhabitants; The first bound a spring to the northward of Joseph Meeder's house by the meadow; thence on a straight line to Sasapana Will's old cellar; from thence straight to Kestokas

field; from thence to John Swain's gate by the creek and so along by the creek to the first bound.

This must have been a tract near Polpis.

1717. Spotso to Samuel Coffin, pasturage.
1722. Spotso to the Freeholders; this tract near the east end of the island; from a rock at the English bounds at a place called Kestokas field on a straight line to a place called Aquitnet Point where the fishing house of William Worth now stands; on the west by the English bounds and by Pocomo, on the north by the harbor, and east by the sea.
1723. Daniel Spotso to the Inhabitants; a tract in the section now called Squam.
- Silas an Indian to Thomas Macy, 16 acres of land near Squam Pond.
1726. Spotso to the trustees: A strip of land from Potpis to the sea near Aquitnet.
1739. James Shay to Ebenezer Gardner for the Town.
- Whereas, I was married to Jemima, the daughter and heir of Cain, a sachem, and she having died, I hereby sell all interest in her land.
1741. Daniel Spotso had died and his son Barney sells to the proprietors all his interest in land of his father.

1741. Ben Abel a sachem sells to the proprietors 2-3 of all land in the territory of Wanackmamack.
- In consequence of this deed the Indians in his tribe repudiated him as their sachem, and a revolt took place which will be hereafter described.
1742. Esau Cook an Indian to Samuel Coffin, for the proprietors, land at South Shore.
- March 2, 1744. Isaac Musaquat to proprietors, land between Weeweder Pond and Myacomet Pond, 240 rods north and south.
- Oct. 9, 1744. Mussaquat had died and his wife had married James Robbin. They sell to proprietors all interest in Isaac's land.
1744. James Shay to proprietors one horse common.
1745. Isaac Woosco to Paul Pease; land near Sasagachah Pond.
1747. Samuel Chegin to Chapman Swaine "My English built dwelling house at Squam where my father lived."
1748. Eben Abel to proprietors: certain land at the east end of the island.
- March 8, 1758. Eben Cain to proprietors: All land that he had inherited from Ezeky.
- July 14, 1762. Titus Zekey to proprietors: Ten acres at Squam.

July 20, 1730. Joshua Jethro to the proprietors: All his interest in land inherited from his father Nickanoose. He made claim to this land, much of which had been purchased by the town from the Spotsos and other descendants of Nickanoose. His absence from the Island for over 50 years led to the inference that he had died, and when he appeared the land owners consulted their old men and they found that there had been such an Indian mentioned in the records March 25, 1674, in which he complained against Nickanoose for denying his title or interest in his land, and Nickanoose in open Court owned Jethro's title after the death of Nickanoose equally with Wauwinnet.

Between August 1763 and the following February, the Indians at Nantucket were smitten by a very singular plague which failed to affect the whites although they were nursing the sick Indians. At this time near Myacomet and towards the east end of the Island the Indian residents numbered nearly three hundred, and in this period of six months 222 died, and on the records appear only three more Indian deeds.

- 1771. Benjamin Abel sells to the proprietors all his interest in Nantucket.
- 1772. Abigail Jethro to proprietors: Part of a horse common.
- 1774. John Jethro to proprietors one sheep's common.



Metacomet, also called King Philip, visited Nantucket and failed to induce the Indians to join him in his famous war. In his presence they declared themselves at peace with the whites.

The liquor problem was always hard to solve. The Indians were certain to drink to excess and were willing to pay enormous prices for liquor that made it very profitable trading.

Stephen Hussey was found guilty of smuggling it, and Nathaniel Barnard and Stephen Pease selling it to the Indians. Legislation failed to remedy the trouble. They would buy or steal liquor and become infuriated to commit all kinds of crime.

LETTER FROM THOMAS MACY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nantucket, May 9, 1676.

May it please your Honor, where your Goodness have been such as to send so after us to know how 'tis with us in these troublesome and dangerous Times, wherein our neighbors have so greatly suffered and we as yet through the Goodnesse of God are free, these are to returne Thanks the same of your Vigilancy we doubt not, hath conduced to our Peace, these rude lines are to give your Honor an Accompt how Things are and have been with us; a considerable Company of Indians have formerly owned themselves Philip's Men, but since the wars began they have seemingly we hope declared themselves against him. We have carried ourselves towards them manifesting no Distrust and Things have been orderly carried among them; only we have heard now and then a Word . . . . . which we have not liked but have overlooked the same. And I doubt not we may enjoy Peace (if our sins hinder not) so long as we can keep strong Liquor from them. Your Honor may understand that some that dwell else-

where have some Yeares past sent Goods to trade with the Indians upon the accompt of Fishing, and otherwise and great quantities of strong Liquor have been sent and notwithstanding all orders and care about it to p'hibit it had ben one way or other disposed to the Indians which hath occasioned great Abuse and Disorder, but since the Warrs began they have not had much; the last Fall the Court tooke into their Possession all on the Island and disposed of it by small quantities as the Owners and the English Neighbors had need, and because of the late Scarcity little hath lately come.

The agent here that carried on the Trade for the Gentlemen hath bargained with the Indians to give each man a dram before they go out fishing in the Morning, but under that p'tence much abuse have been, but respecting that p'sent Voyage a small Quantity came, about 16 Gallons which was carried by ye Indians. It so came to pass that a Sloop came to my Hon'd Cousin, Mr. Mayhew, from the Hon'ble Councill, and Mr. Mayhew sent to me the order that prohibited strong Drink being carried to any Indian plantation, which Order came to my Hand the 6 day of the Week, and I presently went to ye House of him that had carried the Liquor aforementioned to ye Indians, and carryed the Order with me, but finding him not at Home left a Warrant at the House requireing him in his Majesty's (name) to fetch away the Liquor carried to ye Indians; but slighted and not at all obeyed, but the Liquor spent there as I understand. The Monday following I caused the Order to be read in the Town Meeting, which some greatly disliked, as I understood.

My Humble request is, a Word or two from your Hon. : about it. Sir, concerning the Peace we hitherto enjoy I cannot imagine it could have been if strong Liquor had bin among the Indians, as formerly; for my owne yt I have been to ye utmost an opposed of the Trade these 38

Yeares, and I verily believe (respecting the Indians) 'tis the only ground of the miserable p'sent Ruine to both Nations; 'tis that hath kept them from Civility, they have been by the drunken Trade kept all the while like wild Beares and Wolves in the Wilderness.

Concerning my understanding in the matter I have now sent to Governor, ye which I hope may come to publicke View, &c. But respecting the p'sent Times and State of Things, I humbly entreat if in yo'r Wisdom you shall see meet to make a strict Law or Order respecting our Island to p'hibit any Vessel whatsoever that shall come in ye Harbor to sell or give any strong Drink more or less to any Indian under a penalty, and to Command or Order the Governour here to search all Vessels for strong Drink and either to cause the Master or Merchant to carry away or take into custody so much as they judge may be needfull for the moderate use of the English here, or for Indians in case of distress, &c., and according to ye discretion of the Court to put it in the Hands of some Man or Men that may be judged faithfull, by small quantities, dispose as be needed, for tho ye Traders it may be do not dispose of much to ye Indians, yet many of the Inhabitants do frequently purchase it p'tending for their own use and sell it to ye Indians. An Order from your Hon. will be of greater Force than any we can make tho left to Liberty herein: and whereas in your Letter to Mr. Mayhew you give liberty to dispose of Powder to trusty Indians for their necessary use, we judge it were better for us wholly to p'hibit for tho some here we aprehend may be confided in, yet so to distinguish will give great Offence, yet by private Instructions your Honor may referre something to ye discretion of the Governor, respecting contingent accidents in reference to . . . . . and Peace, not further Trouble at p'sent I commend you . . . . . ye weighty

Affaires committed to your management to ye . . . . .  
of the only wise God and remaine,

Your Servant at Command,

THO. MACY.

The General Court passed this vote in the same line :

Oct. 3, 1696.

In the House of Representatives,—

Voted: that the Honorable the Lt-Governor and Council would please to take some speedy course about the Indians at Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket to prevent the inconvenience caused by the great quantity of sider and other strong drink that is brought among them and sold unto them there.

It plainly appears that every tract of land on Nantucket was covered by some conveyance from the Indians, generally from a sachem, though sometimes from the occupant. No deed was ever alleged by the Indians to be forged or that they were induced to sign when intoxicated. They claimed that they had been treated unjustly by their white neighbors but never that any advantage was taken to procure conveyance. There can be no doubt that the rights of the Indians were fully protected so far as their land was concerned. But there were two legal results that were perplexing to them.

1. Seizure of property to pay fines imposed upon guilty persons.

2. The Anglo Saxon theory of real estate conveyances.

If any Indian while intoxicated or in passion, assaulted a human being it was all right to find him guilty, and when brought before the Court they usually admitted the act; but to be fined £10 and have a house or land taken

to pay the fine was a novelty. The Indian notion of punishment was to visit on him the same suffering that he caused the other. Taking away his horse because he assaulted a man with a knife was an unheard of proceeding. And they never ceased writing of the great injustice they had sustained. But according to the theory followed by the English there was nothing unjust about it. The law of England prescribed fines as a mode of punishment. The English could not allow disorders to pass without notice, neither could they torture Indian criminals and allow white to be fined. The only safe rule was to punish both in the same manner. The Indian complaints recited how different articles had been taken from them, but when the fact was ascertained there was always a criminal complaint and verdict of guilty, and then the officers collected the fine. The Indians charged that they were not permitted an impartial trial but if there had been any serious wrong there was the right of appeal to Courts of higher jurisdiction in New York and Boston, which would have corrected any injustice.

It is also evident that the Indians were not skilled in understanding the numerous crimes of the Englishmen. Trespass on real estate was unknown and very few acts of Indians were ever punished and then only as revenge by the person injured. Drunkenness was not an offence so it seemed singular that the English sold the Indians liquor at satisfactory profit and then punished them for being drunk. Yet this claim was never made. The complaint was based entirely on the punishment.

But the greatest source of perplexity was the force and effect of the English deed of conveyance. The idea that one man could so become entitled to real estate as to prevent others from using it never entered into the notion of the Indian. Land was to him as free as the water or the air. Nobody could have exclusive right to it. So

when the white men came and obtained deeds from the sachems, it was merely the admission of the new settlers on equal terms with themselves. It was not that the Indian had ceased to have the right to enjoy the land but that another had become his co-occupant. Hence the idea that an Indian could be guilty of trespass was a strange innovation. Having the same right as the white man he supposed he could use any land, house or building of the Englishman, or even his property without being guilty of crime. When this use was denied and he was held to be guilty of trespass or theft, it was beyond his comprehension.

The whites desired the land and were willing to pay for it. The Indians used it for no special purpose. Having paid for it and taken the deed, the Englishman could not permit the Indian to interfere with his exclusive use. For if he did then the Indian could use any property of the white man, real or personal, without restraint. Such a condition was not to be thought of by the English. They applied the same law to the Indian as to the white and it is hard to see how they could have done differently.

The further fact cannot be doubted that for planting, houselots and other usual purposes the Indians have all the land that they required. They were not ejected or removed from their homes.

This is not the place to discuss whether it was fair to the aborigines thus to apply to them the European idea of land tenure and compel them to obey the laws and regulations brought from England, or whether these rules and regulations were the best that could be devised. The question is whether by fraud, artifice or over reaching the white settlers took advantage of the Red men. There was never a complaint by the Indian that he was cheated but that he was fined for offences that were not punished before the white men came, and that when the sachems

gave deeds to the English, then the Indians were forbidden to use the same land thereafter. It was purely a question whether the whites should stay on the Island or move away. For to allow the Indians to follow the customs of their wild life would render inhabitaney of the white man impossible.

If the Indians once allowed the same liberties with the whites that were permitted among themselves, the property of the English would not be safe, and their only alternative would be to abandon the Island to the natives. It is not the purpose of this book to discuss the question, whether the English should have settled the new continent or left it to its wild inhabitants. This concerns every country where there are savages, but it must be clear that there were no tricks practiced on the natives and no different treatment extended to them than to the whites and that they were used honestly and suffered only because they were not accustomed to the laws and regulations enforced by the English. Assuming that the English were rightfully on the Island, it must follow that they took no advantage of the Red man but treated him exactly as they did their own countrymen.

The acts complained of by the Indians were due to the laws which the Englishmen brought with them across the Atlantic and not because of any purpose to wrong, cheat or defraud the Indians.

During the controversy described hereafter in which the Indians attempted to recover their lands from the English, they alleged that although the latter had sachem deeds yet these could not take away the rights of the individual to land.

If it be said that much if not all the friction between the two races was due to the liquor which the English sold to the Indians, the answer is that there is no evidence of the fact and the Indians never made any such claim. If in

any way this proposition can be established, then the English were responsible for a great wrong. But there is absolutely no evidence that any property was obtained or any liberty restricted by the English while the Red men were under the effect of liquor. If such had been the case, their white friends would have been sure to urge it in their petitions. At the same time the English did their best through fines and punishment to change the life of their neighbors. It is said that some religious teaching was provided and by the Lovelace instructions in 1671 a particular arrangement was advised to conciliate rather than antagonize, and to be careful to use such moderation that they may by degrees, be brought conformable to the laws and that they be allowed some self government based on the English model.

But the most vigorous effort was made to reform the Indian by Court procedure. The only obligation which the Indian recognized was to superior force. He felt no duty towards his neighbor. The duty to pay a debt was an unknown idea. Hence the first case which opened to the Court in September, 1672, was an action of debt which John Savage brought against the Sachem Jephtha. Then for nearly forty years the almost entire business of the Court was devoted to cases in which one or both parties were Indians. Courts were established in each sachemship, and Indian judges and officers were appointed to deal with misdemeanors. It was hoped that in this way the savage might be educated to an apprehension of rights and wrongs as understood by civilized nations. But the attempt failed because a race that owed allegiance only to brute force could not easily understand moral duties and obligations.

In the Registry of Deeds appear references to whaling and fishing. The bodies of whales drifted ashore and were highly prized by the natives although to what use they



put these bodies it is not now possible to decide. It seems, however, that they found some advantage in securing "drift whales," and soon after the settlement of Nantucket the Englishmen found it to be necessary to make regulations about their disposal.

- 7, 13, 1668. "Edward Starbuck and Peter Folger were empowered to make a bargain with the Indians concerning all whales that shall come to any shore on the Island, on the Town's behalf."
- June 20, 1672. "Ahkeiman laying claim to part of Tuckanuck his claim thereto is found no other but as he was a duke or principal man upon Nantucket; the Nantucket Sachems, together with his father, having sold Tuckanuck it is ordered that he shall have such a part or portion of land for his use at Nantucket of the present Sachems as will become one of such quality, and a portion of the whales."
- July 21, 1673. "Ordered by the Court that the Alwife Creek of fishing at Coatue and all the whale fish or other drift fish belong to the Indian sachems, and liberty to gather flags and other beech grass to make mats."
- March 29, 1676. "At a Court held at Sherburne it was concluded that Washaman is to have the head of drift whales for his share, and Desire is to have half along with him, and when Washaman is here at this

Island then he is to go Master of the share ; but when he is absent then Desire is to go master of the share."

June 27, 1676. "It is ordered that no rack whale that comes ashore in any sachem's bounds shall be cut up until all the masters of the shares that belong to that whale do come together upon the penalty of 20 s fine to any that shall cut up and dispose of any part contrary to the order aforesaid, and also if any master be off the Island and have no man to act for him he is lose his share whale for that time."

This was done in consequence of a complaint by Mr. Harry against Spotso for so doing.

June 5, 1677. "Between Spotso and Moosoquet concerning the land whose certain boundaries form a point called Astimmoost and so over to the beach and westward by the English land. The Court having resolved and the parties contended that the land shall be equally divided between them and likewise the beach and what whales come ashore shall belong to him on whose right it falleth, likewise the people living on the whole tract are to be divided equally to live on either of the lands."

April 24, 1678. "At a Court of Sessions it was ordered that Waquaheho Nickanoose, Spotso and Massaquot shall have full power to choose ten men as a committee for the finding

out the particular rights in whales of all men, and having so done then this committee to give an account to the Court and from thence it shall be transmitted to the General Court for confirmation, and if in any case a particular man shall be wronged by the committee they have their liberty by petition to the General Court where they may be heard."

- June 1678. "Wakeikman is ordered to have such a part of Massaquats whales as he can make appear that he used to take by Sessanuquins order while said whales were in the possession of Wienakisoo."
- June 1678. "Ordered that Mequash shall have such a part of the whales of the Nantucket lands as did belong to his ancestors inasmuch that it appears that he obtained the right thereof from the Sachems."
- June 1678. "Ordered that George Nanahumo, Nantakagin and Obadiah with their companions shall have the whales from Goodman Swaine's Pond to Smith's Point according to their former custom and to be divided."
- 2, 24, 1679. "Massaquet complained against Eleazur Folger for taking away his whale the Court found for the defendant and Massaquet appealed to the General Court. The trial of the case was heard before the following jurors :

Philip Watson,  
 William Weeks,  
 Thomas Trappe,  
 Richard Arey,  
 Peter Jenkins,  
 Mose . . . . .

“The jury find for the plaintiff and cost of Court.

The Court do adjudge the said defendant to pay for the whale the sum of 4 pounds in goods at the usual price of trading, and do allow his bill of charge 6 s.” It is significant that this jury was composed of Vineyard men.

“Mr. William Worth and William Gayer said that Eleazur Folger did own at the trial of the case at Nantucket that he did dispose of the whale in controversy.”

July 19, 1679. “The Court ordered that the rack or drift whale in that bound on the beach upon the plains from the pond of Richard Swaine to Smith’s Point shall be divided into eight shares.”

It would not be profitable to rehearse all the shortcomings of the Indians that are recorded. But a few will be given to illustrate the method of the Court. March 1677, Quench sued for “a disvourse,” which was granted and the woman that was his wife was fined 20 shillings “in regard to his trobell.”

Stephen Hussey complained that Debdekcoat would not pay for some fish. The Indian admitted the debt and he was ordered to deliver to Hussey the same quantity of fish.

Machoogen was convicted of "Burglary" and was fined 5 shillings and severely whipt.

Shaakerune had sold liquor: When interrogated where he procured it he answered that he found it. For this trifling with authority he was fined 5 shillings and ordered to be whipt ten stripes, for "imbaseling." Usually the culprit confessed the fact.

And so proceeds the record, page after page. It is all explained when one remembers how crude were the Indian's conception of human rights. Liberty so unrestrained as to become wild license was his only rule and he was ready to commit any crime to procure liquor or chattels belonging to the English. The penalties which were imposed seem to be lenient. Here are some samples:

Stealing beef from storehouse, Court fees.

Hindering an arrest, £5 and whipped.

Breaking into a house, whipped.

Stealing sheep, whipping and branding.

Assault, 20 shillings.

Stealing a canoe, 20 shillings.

Being drunk, 20 shillings.

Breach of promise, man to be whipped.

The death penalty was never ordered except in case of murder.

The traits of the Indians will be exhibited in the following chapter.



## CHAPTER VIII.

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### *Indians Attempt to Regain Their Land.*

There was another feature of the English conveyance that was a puzzle to the Indian. He could not comprehend how he could be deprived of use of land after he had given a deed of the same, but he held to the idea that even if he were ousted yet his children certainly had right to occupy as though the white men had no deed. About the year 1700 the old sachems that were there when the English came had passed away and the red men felt apprehension at the increase of the whites.

How soon after the settlers reached Nantucket misunderstandings arose there is no way of determining; the earliest Court records that have been preserved were begun in September, 1672. There is no question that before that time there were Courts in Nantucket, in which violations of English law were punished. Probably these proceedings were kept in a small book which was demanded of Peter Folger while he was in jail. There were constables both Indian and English, and previous to 1672 there were rules and regulations for the conduct of Indians both personally and in relation to his property. These orders and regulations are briefly indicated in the chapter on that subject.

The first record of any controversy is July 19, 1673, when a complaint is made against Nickanoose and his son Isaac Wauwinnet for "defaming the title of the English Neck called Pokamquoh." Witnesses and deeds were examined, and the Court decided that the title was good.

The difficulty in April 21, 1674, when Obadiah complained against Spotso that he would neither divide nor set off land, has already been described.

The discontent that was natural at observing the prosperity and increase of the English. The English were too numerous for the Indians to attempt war. In some way they had discovered that petitions to the General Court were respected by that tribunal. They accordingly obtained the services of some Englishmen to draft a petition which was presented to the Governor probably in the spring of 1700. Although the petition has no date Lord Bellamont was Governor of Massachusetts Province between May 26, 1699 and July, 1700, and it must have been during this period that the petition was presented.

The petition was signed by Seikinnou and Daniel Spotso. Although the latter was selling land to the English both after and before this date.

“To His Excellency Richard Earl of Bellamont, Baron of Colony, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, and the Honorable Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled :

The humble petition of Seiknow and Daniel Spotso, Indian inhabitants of the Island called Nantucket, within the said Province, humbly sheweth :

That whereas your poor petitioners, being Indians of Nantucket Island within this Province, said Island being peopled in part with the English who making divers purchases on said Island have claimed such interest in the herbage of the whole that they have on pretense of trespass done them by our cattle taken divers of them sold them and converted them to their own use notwithstanding our pretense of right there to feed and pasture, in doing whereof they pretend law and to have done the same by



authority thereof. If it please your Lordship and your Honors we humbly pray that in respect to the said English inhabitants and such as are their judges or concerned or that have been concerned in taking away our cattle and forcing us to pay for using our own lands and pasturing our own rights become therein judges of their own cause, judge and execute what they call a trespass to themselves which cannot be avoided since they all claim a common right or share lying in common ; every Englishman's case, as to such cases, is the pretended interest of both judges and people and ourselves being low in parts and poor in estate, not versed in English law yet taught our wrong by the light of nature, humbly pray that your Lordship and Honors would please in honor to justice and pity to our distress to afford such relief as to your Lordship and to your Honors in wisdom may seem meet to your petitioners. Shall always pray as in duty bound.

Whereas we Daniel Spotso and Seikinow in our humble petition herewith presented have in general showed our grievance respecting the present state of things relating to our liberties, properties and rights on the Island of Nantucket we would humbly presume to speak more particularly of late injuries, as we humbly conceive we have lately sustained, and seem remediless for the reasons in our petition contained, viz :

Some time this spring John Coleman, constable, did take two cows from me Seikinow, alleging he did it by order from Capt. John Gardner, Esquire, Justice of the Peace, for that my cattle were trespassers by feeding on lands which belonged to himself and purchasers or town myself putting them on my own right, but being ignorant of English law and poor in estate for the reasons in our humble petition contained rely wholly on your Lordship and Honors that what of right belongeth may be done.

And I Daniel Spotso Sachem having right to pasture

and feeding of cattle and as I humbly conceive on certain lands on Nantucket, finding the great disturbance and grief of Indians challenging like liberty being fearful of a like suffering with those that have been fined or paid for using the liberty, under ours and my ancestors, and being threatened with the like except he would agree, viz: with said Capt. John Gardner and Town, and being both poor and not acquainted with English law and customs would humbly pray I might know whether the taking of money from those that have claimed liberty for such feeding from him be equal and right by English law, that so he may regulate himself accordingly and that the same may be by persons not interested or claiming said right.

(Signed,)

SEIKINNOW.

DANIEL SPOTSO."

The allegation in the petition that the judges were not impartial is very similar to an allegation in a petition about the same time presented to the General Court by Stephen Hussey.

This first petition was skillfully drawn, and it is not strange that Lord Bellamont was much impressed with the wrongs which it delineated. During his term of office Mr. James Coffin, then Judge of Probate from Nantucket County, called upon the Governor in reference to the petition, and this is the Governor's account of the interview:

"The Representative that served for Nantucket (one Mr. Coffin) came to solicit me and the Council to pass an act to restrain the Indians on that Island from trading with Rhode Island; the Indians had complained to me how hardly they were used by the English, and Mr. Coffin owned the whole matter there that the English had

bargained with the Indians that half of the Island should be for the use of the Indians to sow Indian wheat on, but that while the crop is off the land the grass on that land is to belong wholly to the English; so that these Indians now that they would keep cattle are not suffered to do so. This is such a circumvention and fraud as ought not to be suffered, and so I told Mr. Coffin before the Council and I declared I would not give a cent to any bill that should put a further hardship on those Indians."

It would seem from this account that there must have been a misunderstanding on the part of the Governor of the statements made by Mr. Coffin, for it is not possible that he could have made the admissions stated by Lord Bellamont.

As nothing resulted from the Bellamont petition except some discomfiture to the English, the Indians shortly afterwards petitioned to Gov. Dudley and made the same statements in substance as contained in the first petition. There is no date to the petition, but it may be fixed approximately between June 11, 1702, and Aug. 27, 1703, for the following reasons: From the archives in Boston it appears that the committee to whom this petition was referred made a report thereon, dated Aug. 27, 1703, and this period of service of Joseph Dudley as Governor commenced June 11, 1702. The petition must therefore have been presented during the period between these dates.

The similarity of the phraseology of this petition with the one presented by Stephen Hussey almost proves that he was the composer of both. For comparison Hussey's petition is presented. Later Cain and Abel gave Stephen Hussey a conveyance of all their lands for 99 years.

“To ye Honored Counsell and Representatives now setting and assembled in a Great and General Court att Boston, &c., &c.

The Humble Petition of Stephen Hussey, of Nantuckett, showeth :

How that your Petitioner having occasion to bring severall actions and pleas against ye Inhabitants of our town of Sherborn upon Nantuckett considers himself under a great disadvantage in yt ye law of ye province give the subject the advantage of three tryals and your petitioner without your speciall release must be contented with only two in as much as ye petitioner in a Royall action which is his case, must being his said action in ye county and place where ye land lieth which will be where ye judges and Major part of ye jury will be the principal psons yt petitioner brings his action against; ye premises considered, your petitioner's prayer is that you would please in some measure to make it your owne case in that your petitioner may rationally conclude he shall lose his case on the first tryall and soe can have the benefit of but two tryalls.

Wherefore upon the reasons above laid down, your petitioner's earnest prayer is that your Honors will allow him ye favor of a speciall Court to begin or bring his first action or order yt he may proceed or bring such action at ye Inferior Court att Boston or at any Court in Plymouth Colony as in your wisdom shall be thought consistent for yr petitioner dreads a tryall upon Nantucket for yt he cannot sometimes obtain copies of the clerk, under a legall test, and sometimes no copies at all, and sometimes cannot have ye evidences relating to his case read in Court, and so itt hath been sometimes yt in his case that although the jury have come into Court and desiered the papers relating to ye case, they weren't upon hand been

denied them by the Court, as also hearing of them read and soe compelled to bring in a speciall verdict or none at all for want of the evidence and papers. This being ye petitioners complaint, Humbly craves yr Honors' help.

And ye petitioner shall ever pray, etc."

June 1, 1702.

The General Court resented the allegations of the petition and administered a sharp rebuke.

Petition sent by Indians, probably after 1702 :

“To His Excellency, Joseph Dudley, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over her Majesty's Province of Massachusetts Bay, and to the honorable Her Majesty's Council for the said Province.

The humble petition of Daniel Spotso, Abel Cain, and Peter Massaquet, all Sachems belonging to the Island of Nantucket, sheweth—

That whereas your petitioners are very much wronged and oppressed by several of the English inhabitants of the Island aforesaid, who did very much overreach your petitioners' forefathers, in the purchase of lands and hedges. And also, in carrying away all their wood that grew both upon and under ground, to the great grief and damage of your petitioners, and who will be forced in a short time to leave their habitations, and be utterly ruined, unless some remedy be applied for their relief. And whereas your petitioners are utterly without remedy, and cannot possibly recover their right by law at home, both Judges and Jurors being all parties in the cause, for which reason your petitioners have been feign several times to address the authority of this Province, but as yet without redress.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray, that a special Court of Oyer and Terminer may be constituted and commissioned to set, at the charge of your petitioners, in Boston, with full power to hear and determine all causes that shall be brought before them in behalf of your Petitioners according to law.

And your petitioners shall pray, etc.

Signum,

DANIEL SPOOSPOTSWA,  
PETER R. MASSAQUET,  
ABEL I. 2 CAIN."

The report of the Committee to whom this petition was referred is incorporated in a report in relation to Indians on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard as well as Nantucket.

After the report had been made nothing further was done until June 14, 1708, when James Coffin, appointed agent by the Town for that purpose, petitioned the General Court for a confirmation of the Committee's report. The purpose of this petition was to fix the status of the English titles by an act of the Legislature.

The report and petition are as follows :

"To His Excellency, Joseph Dudley, Esq., Capt.-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over our Majesty's Provinces of the Massachusetts Bay.

The humble petition of James Coffin, Esq., in behalfe of the English Inhabitants, proprietors of the Island of Nantucket,—

#### SHEWETH

That whereas by an order of the Great and General Court now about five years since, viz: 1703, there was a Committee appointed to hear the several claims of sundry Indians to land upon Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, etc., and upon hearing the pleas and allegations of both English and Indians concerned they made their report as more

at large will appear by a copy thereof hereto annexed, and (among other things) reported that assuming the contest between the Sachems and English on Nantucket about feed of cattle.

It appears to us by deeds that the English have purchased the herbage of Jephth , Spotso and Manumet, sachems share, and that the will or writing produced by the Indians to prove the former conveyance of it to them by the                    there inquired into, the truth of it and found by the confession of the scribe that wrote it, and by other there interested that they do not agree neither to the time nor place where it was written (together with other of their papers) which gives us cause to believe that they were not true, but false and forged.

But forasmuch as the said report altho' returned in to the General Court hath never yet had the approbation or confirmation of the said Court.

(Prayer for confirmation)

JAMES COFFIN.

14th June, 1708.

The Committee's Report, 31 - 17,  
dated Aug. 27, 1703.

BARNABAS LATHROP,  
JOHN THATCHER,  
STEPHEN SKOOFFE,  
JOHN OTIS,  
WILLIAM BASSETT."

The report was adopted by the General Court the same month.

The deed or will referred to in the Committee's report cannot be positively identified, but in all probability it is the will of Nickanoose, written in the Indian language, and dated 1668, which years afterwards was recorded at Martha's Vineyard and produced as evidence in the later stage of the controversy before the General Court.

By reference to the deeds given by the Indians who signed these two petitions, which deeds were given after 1703, it must appear evident that the decision of the General Court made very little impression on the Indians; every one of them gave deeds to the English, and some covering large tracts.

The second stage of the Indian controversy began in the summer of 1741, when the sachem Ben Abel had given a deed to the English of two-thirds of the territory of Nickanoose. Immediately there was an uproar among the Indians of that locality. In the following petition it will appear that they described themselves as Lakedown or Lakedon Indians.

Among the names of the petitioners will appear Joshua Mamock and Titus Mamack, which lends some plausibility to the theory that the sachem Wanackmamack should have had his name spelled Wanack Mamack.

This petition is not drafted with the care and skill of those from Stephen Hussey's hands, and as a result seems to have made but little impression upon the General Court.

It was the same old story that the Indians could not comprehend how by a deed a man could so become vested with a title as to exclude all others from occupation.

Notice of the petition was given to the town of Nantucket, and John Coffin and Abaisha Folger made answer to said petition about two years after.

It was a case where the proof did not sustain the allegation; whoever drafted the petition for the Indians alleged more than could be proved. The petitions and the answer are as follows:—

“In the year 1741, 2 of the 11 mo.

“Then we, the Indians of Lakedon, Nantucket, complained with the English for taking our cattle from us,



and also from our fathers. But we now speak for ourselves, for we know what they have took away from us in times past.

John Jouab had horse taken from him which cost him eight pounds.

Jonathan had horse taken from him which he had nothing for.

James Asab had horse taken from him out of his own pasture which cost him four pounds, and he took nothing for his horse.

John Tashime had horse taken from him which cost him five pounds; had another horse took from him which cost ten pounds.

John Jethro had three horses took from him which cost him 27 pounds.

John Mamack had horse took from him which cost him 12 pounds.

His father had horse took from him.

Paul Jouab had two horses took from him which cost 25 pounds.

Esau Cook's father had horse taken from him which cost 12 pounds.

Richard Napanah had a heifer took from him.

Solomon Zachariah's father had horse taken from him which cost him 3 Pds.

Naubgrachas had a horse taken from him.

Abel Nanahoo had a horse taken from him which cost him 6 pounds.

James Asab and John Asab make complaint against the Englishmen of Nantucket or their father Asa, for taking from him twelve cows and oxen in his day. This was done more than forty years ago, and we Indians of Lakedon, some of us have horses, and we been pasturing for ourselves of Englishmen; they ask us three pounds first, then four pounds, and now they ask five

pounds. In the year 1741 Englishmen's creatures eat our corn most all up and now they eat all of it.

John Jouab had an acre of corn almost half eat up by Englishmen's cattle, and he had not near half as much as he expected he would have from this acre.

Solomon Zachariah had one acre of corn all eat up by Englishmen's cattle.

John Jethro had half an acre of corn all eat up by Englishmen's cattle, and had wigwam house broke down, and Englishman gave him nothing for it.

John Tashima had half an acre of corn all eat up by Englishmen's cattle, and had nothing for it.

Esau Cook had two acres all eat up, and had nothing for it.

The said Englishmen taken our cattle away from us make other town Indians come in upon us, take away our wood from our land. These Indians said no Englishman went to prison; those Lakedon town Indians they cared not what to do unto us. Chief of those Indians is Barnabas Spotso and James Papamoo, his son.

And those Englishmen of Nantucket they never take their sheep early in the spring of the year but let them late this month of May come in, and then after their sheep have done some hurt to our plantations then they take their sheep from our lands, and after they will let go their sheep; they let them go to our lands sometimes last of August; then they let them go up to our lands to eat up our corn, and if they let go their creatures to eat up our corn and they would pay us for hurt but they never did and their creatures hurt us for eight years."

11mo. 1741.

“Then came to pass that we Lakedown Indians at Nantucket met with great trouble by the Benjamin Abel for selling our land from us to Englishmen which we all

had share equal that we Town Indians at our place consulted together and we all agreed as one to put down the aforesaid Benjamin Abel not to be Sachem over us any more, and after we had so agreed together then we Town Indians appointed to pray to our God to put us in a way which we should take. The church people and the town people were together that day and after this all our elders in our town tell us we may put down Benjamin Abel from being sachem in our place and we may choose another man to be sachem over us, and we went to New York and Boston to ask these two governments and they tell us that we may put Benjamin Abel down from being sachem over us from doing that she should not done, may chose another man which fear God because this Benjamin Abel had no other power but what he had from us, and we town Indians as to do anything in our town. And then we had liberty to choose another man which should stand for us in our town and for our land.

This was done at Nantucket Lakedower Indian Town. In the fourth month, 1741, this year, and we the Lakedow Town Indians chose this man John Quass to be for our help and sachem in our town and place over us. We chose him because our fathers and good old men. in our place tell us, if ever we chose another sachem in our town, we should choose this man, and now we look to this man which serve God for what he did to help the town people in our place.

Concerning of our land before he was chose so to do and after he was desired to help the town people in what he seeth it is good for town people and will defend us from our enemies, from the English and Indians as they are our enemies in all they do, to teach us and some Indians in our town to do take our land away from us, and in all manner to bother us but this man has been our help and

we find no fault in him and we hope he is a man that has fear of God.

And now you John Quass you are the man which we chose to be for our sachem Lakedon Town Indians, and to be our help where you see we need of it.

Concerning of our land and as shall be for your

I John Quass are a poor man; I have nothing. If please God to spare my life and give me wisdom and knowledge, you shall have your land of me the Lakedown Town Indians."

Mch 24, 1741. The Committee to whom was referred the complaint of John Jouab et al, Indians at Nantucket, having heard the complainants and considered therein, are of the opinion that inasmuch as John Macy and Tristram Starbuck have purchased of Benjamin Abel, sachem, the land mentioned in said complaint at Secatan and a full understanding of the matters complained of cannot be had without hearing the complaints of the Sachems and the said John and Tristram, which with little charge may be done at Falmouth in the County of Barnstable.

That therefore some suitable persons be appointed by this Court to hear all parties concerned at Falmouth aforesaid, giving proper notice thereof and make report what they think fit for this Court to do thereon.

Mch 24, 1741. Read and accepted and Sylvanus Barron, David Crocker and John Sumner, or any two of them, are appointed for the purpose aforesaid.

“To his Excellency, etc.,—

May ye 25, 1743. May it please your Excellency and Honors, we having received a copy from the Secretary of your order and petition sent out unto the Great and General Court March 31, 1743, by Paul Jouab, John Jouab and Abram Tashame for themselves and the rest of the Indians of Nantucket.

Said petitioners see fault that when said Indians sue for their just debts of the English people on Nantucket they cannot collect them in the law. Also their lands are taken from them by the said English people; so that they will not be able to raise corn this year for their subsistence. This seems to be the complaint of the Indians.

In obedience to your orders and desire we have diligently inquired into the grounds and accusations of said Indian complaint.

Touching the first article in their complaint, that they cannot recover their just debts of the English people,

Upon a diligent inquiry we could not find one single instance of the same, upon which we went to John Jouab and read the copy of said petition and order thereon, (said Jouab being the man that prepared said petition to said Court) and desired him to mention an instance wherein they were not able to recover their just debts of the English, upon which said John Jouab answered that they never put in any such complaint unto the said Court against the English on Nantucket.

And touching their lands being taken from them, etc., being the other article in said petition that they complained of;

We have diligently inquired into and we find that John Jouab who is the head complainant and John Tashime (who is father to Abram Tashime, said Abram representing his father) and a great part of the rest of the Indians

have this year let out a great many acres of pasturing land to the English people and do the same yearly.

We find that said Indians have one tract of land at Nantucket that contains more than 1,000 acres on which there live not above twenty eight or thirty families, which they have the sole planting of without the least molestation from the English.

Beside said tract the Indians plant their fields where they live throughout Nantucket, unmolested by the English people, from which we cannot find that said Indians have any ground at all for said complaint, but on the contrary they have more land than they want to plant yearly.

JOHN COFFIN,  
ABISHAI FOLGER."

The General Court appears to have taken no action upon this petition and answer, possibly because no questions in it were different from those decided forty years before.

Paul Jouab was not satisfied at the delay.

"The Honored Governor at Boston and to the Council and House of Representatives :

This Paul Jouab is come from New York and he is set back to come to this Honorable General Court in Boston to pray the Honorable Court to tell him whatever this Honorable Court intends to do any more for him concerning their lands, or not; and if not, they pray to the Honorable Court that the said Paul Jouab may be dismissed from the said Court with his business, that he may go home to New York again, for his business has been in this Court a long time, and that Paul Jouab has been under great charges and time spent, and now I am undone; my money is spent and the English at Nantucket say there is no help for those Indians; now they take all

the best of our land away from us, and so they will always do.

Complaint is come to the Honorable General Court as to what English do to Indians at Nantucket; they let them have money and goods and Indians are sent whaling and fishing, and when Indians are at home then they must work for their masters, and they will not give Indians account of what they get at such times whaling or fishing, and let Indians live as long as he will, and when he dies English will take all what may be found to his estate, and English will leave nothing for Indian's wife or children, and so they become poor, and the poor Indians at Nantucket desire this from you; that the Indians may have an account made up to him to see what he is indebted to his said masters.

We pray that this may be granted by you "chintelmen" on General Court to your poor Indians at Nantucket.

Dated June 1, 1749.

PAUL JOUAB."

The Guardians were ordered to inquire into the complaint.

The Guardians were Jonathan Coffin, Richard Coffin and Abisha Folger. They were appointed in December, 1749.

In the early part of 1751 another attempt was made by a new company of Indians who petitioned the Legislature and accompanied their petition with several remarkable documents;—First in importance was a copy of the will of Nickanoose, which had lately been recorded at Martha's Vineyard, then followed the will of Wauwinnet, also translated by Experience Mayhew. With this was a petition from John and Ben Jouab, stating the situation at Nantucket, at a place called Wannasquam, which has probably continued to this day in the abbreviated form of Squam. Then followed the affidavit of certain Indians

concerning a brother who was a sachem, of the section called Orkawa.

Notice of this petition was served upon the parties interested at Nantucket.

In the meantime a petition signed by thirty Indians, dated December 2, 1751, had been presented to the General Court, accompanied by a copy from the records, which had been made years before in relation to four Indians. The order of notice was dated Dec. 31, 1751. The following are the petitions and exhibits, and the order of notice issued by the General Court.

“Waunashqua on Nantucket, Feb. 26, 1751.

We poor Indians at Nantucket do apply ourselves to you our kind Sachem Governor at Boston.

We entreat you effectually to help us with the help of God that we may have the use of our lands for the English will not suffer us to use it. For as for us Indians our Forefathers or fathers have not sould the land the claim we have nor have we ourselves sould it. And we find the Lame Sachem was the first born, whose Indian name, Nakottootanit whose brothers name was Wunnanche-momog, and Desiah Spotsoo, do say that this is true in the presence of God, Feb. 27, 1752.

I aldsoey do say this is true Nakattootamit was the eldest and the chief sachem at Onkawaem. I desiah Spotso my hand and old Hannah have heard this. This is my hand or mark.

The English at two Indians paper brought to me by Memfopoo translated by me, Experience Mayhew.

This Bejn Joab sues (says) he is grandson to the above Pompason.

The Indians claimed under some old wills of the sachems which are as follows: These documents were



first produced at Edgartown and translated by Experience Mayhew, and were recorded in 1745. It seems strange that such important documents did not appear at Nantucket when the makers died.

“I, Wauwinnett do leave or will to my children my sachemship and all my land.

But unto thee, Askaneapoo I commit the guardianship of my children to take care of them, of all which they have until they have understanding to improve the same.

I, Wauwinnet this is my writing and my hand.

I, Oowamassen am witness to this.

March 3, 1670.

I, Sanchimaish am witness.

Know all ye people that this is true.

The land does belong to the sons of Nicanoose and the children of Wauwinnet. This is true, to the knowledge of me, Joshua, of Chappoquiddick, June 27, 1706.

The said Benjamin Jonah showed me another Indian writing dated Feb. 16, 1686, containing an agreement betwixt Masquoit and a number of his people that no part of the land should be sold to the English.

The same have my name on it.

E. MAYHEW.”

“I Nekanucussor, Sachem of Nantucket have now considered about my sons which are four, first the eldest is Pottupantamin, Nooso, the second What Nooso, the next James Nooso, the next Paul Nooso.

Now I give unto them lands I have divided unto them lands, the first bounds is Mashquttoohk or Reed River and so far as Aqunoonogqutut, or the hole where a stone

stands, and then as far as Hashkinnit chaopket, westward of ye hill and from thence as far as Mashquaponitib quite to ye River of Neckanoosoo Sachem at Wonnashquoom have divided to my four sons so much land viz: to Puttupamim Noosoo and What Messr James Noose and Paul Noosoo these are the Proprietors of sd lands verily and forever. If anyone sell any land he shall loose his interest among the rest. I Neckooeo have made a share for my four sons. They shall certainly have it and all their race or offspring. I fully or freely say this for God or in God's name, Because this is right.

I Neckanucusoo, Sachem, do confirm this forever.  
My hand O."

"January 9, 1668.

I Wauwenit am witness this is my hand.

I Tatagamomos, my hand 6.

I Keostahhan, my hand 6.

I Wumoanohquin, my hand 3 (Seal.)

I Quaqualchoonit my hand.

I Ben Job Pompashom do say I have a reall or firm right to ye land which did belong to Puttupantam Nooso because never sold his land in all his lifetime nor have any of his offspring sold the same, and I Peter Tuphouse and I Peleg Tuphouse and I Benj. Job Pompashom do freely affirm we have rights to ye land which did belong to Puttupantam Noosoo.

BENJ. JOAB PAMPUSHOM,  
PETER TUPHOUSE, x,  
PELEG TUPHOUSE.

Entered July 23, 1745.

Translated by me Experience Mayhew from an Indian.

I was  
This is my land.

THOMAS MAYHEW,

“July 6, 1751.

The case is thus at Nantucket at a place Wannasquam the place where I Benjamin till land. The Englishmen deal thus with us, not with me only but all in our place.

We plow our ground and they take it from us and grow oats on it. Some of our plowed land they turn over again and when some of us mow our grass English take the same from us.

Therefore we poor Indians pray you gentlemen mercifully send for us beginning at Nope and as far as Boston.

They deal too hardly by us and they fear there is danger still of greater evil.

It may be they will slay the Indians for land that belonged to them and what they had a judgment for at Boston.

It is now need that peace be made, so the English say also, that when we have our land divided off they will trouble us no more.

When we plant they let their cattle go into our corn and eat it up.

I John Jouab say this is so, as true as the English do this and the poor Indians are afflicted and troubled.

And we pray you, may here consider our case and help us that we may use our land.

I Ben Jouab and John Jouab am agreed in the matter for the Indians at Wannisquam and those of Lakeutta.”

The depositions of several Indians were similar.

“This is concerning land at Orkawa :

There were certainly two sachems I David Pompasson do say Lame Sachem and Wunnonehumoong were the Sachems at Orkawan and these were both children of one man and one woman. They were brothers.

Wheretore one had one-half and the other had the other half of the land of Okawa.

I David Pompasson do say that Nocodcotoonit was the first born after him was born Wunnonshumanog.

W            had a son called Iaoosohquikbot.

I David Pompasson had for my grandfather Nakonooso who was owner of the land which I said Pompasson do own. I first sought it at the hands of Abel Soosohqualui and Kate Soosohquab, but and before this great . . . . . I say I found and obtained it from their hands who all said David Pompasson did speak true, that there was but two sachems at Orkawa.

And David Pompasson spoke true that Nak, etc., was his grandfather and Wun—etc., who were brothers. Nak. etc., or Lame Sachem was the first born, after him was born Nun . . . . etc.

Therefore I say I David Pompasson am the owner of Arkowain because Nak . . . . etc., was my grandfather and he did not sell land as long as he lived.

I Sasopona Will do say that David Pompasson speaks true.

(Other Indians to same purport.)

March 4, 1719.

“To the Honorable Spencer Phipp, Lieut-Governor of the Province of ye Massachusetts Bay and ye Honorable Councill and House of Representatives in Generall Court assembled :

The humble petition of us ye subscribers, Indians of Nantucket, humbly sheweth that we are under great difficulty and oppression by ye English Inhabitants of ye sd Nantucket and have been so for a long time for about forty years past; they took away all our horses and cattle of all sorts and practiced ye same ever time adjudging we have no right to keep any and of latter years have taken

away our planting land not suffering us to plant any in peace and we can have no remedy, by reason yt it is all done by ye proprietors in Common and ye justice and jurours are all concerned and no longer since ye October last while one of us was gone to Boston to complain of wrong done to us in our planting land yt English people got to making fence to inclose a great part of our Land, we therefore pray that all controverseys between English and Indians relating to real estate may be tryed in some other Courts or other wayes releaved as your Honors in your wisdom may think fit and your petitioners ever pray,

Nantucket, Dec. 2, 1751.

(Signed by thirty Indians.)”

This petition was read in the Council and House of Representatives and Committees appointed to attend to the matter as soon as possible.

“The Committee appointed to consider the petition of a number of Indians, Inhabitants of Nantucket, have met and heard two of said Indians thereupon who further alledge that they are owners of one-half of said Island although the English set up a greater proportion in consequence of a late Indian deed.

The committee are therefore humbly of opinion that the Guardians of said Indians be served with copies of their petition and of the evidence brought to support it and that the said Guardian notifie the English Inhabitants who may be affected therby that so they may make answer thereto as soon as may be.

And that the said Guardians be directed likewise to make a representation of facts relating to this affair at the same time that so the Court may give the necessary orders about it. And in the same mean time that the said Guardians be directed to take effectual care that the

Indians be supported and protected in the enjoyment of their wonted privileges and improvements.

JACOB MENDELL,

By order."

"In Council December 31, 1751. Read and accepted and ordered that the English Inhabitants of Nantucket concerned in the affair within mentioned give in their answer to the Indians' complaint and the Guardians of the Indians their Representation of the facts on the first Fryday of the next sitting of this Court."

The following is a curious production addressed to the Colonial Governor :

"Our great Sachem to Boston if all ye will ples consider for us in this few words a bouth many things for we are all poor Indians and we all pray unto thee give us amendes and we all wish all ye may heare as in this our sd case.

First thing, abouth our Lands, next thing for our woods ; this white people som are neighbors ; they have take our land and cut of our woods and our marsh taken againsts our wills and tha seat therein houses upon our lands against, and we have river get fish but we have no comford get fish ; this nothing but truth it this not lie and was all so.

Suffer for need for plant corn and wand buy for our cattle ; our Gardienes tha take away our lands and marsh and that Indian money for our lands and marsh for school masters and Indian ministers ; this gardienes tha will not gave to poor of Indian school masters and poor of Indian minister and now poor Indians fast go sea for deds for them no money for them close and then meets or lands or marsh for plant and we all think this not done for take away their bread out their mouths. We do not no laws so humble servants pray Indians unto thee Great

Honors we pray not made as suffer for you by law if you all will be cause we hear you made new laws which we are all not understand as laws and we cannot read and we cannot help ourselves for we no money if ever so much good our case in law.”

The answers of the English are as follows :

PROPRIETARY'S ANSWER.

“Sherburne on Nantucket, June 5, 1752.

To the Honorable Spencer Phipps, etc., etc.

The proprietary of the Town of Sherburne in the County of Nantuckett at a meeting legally warned and met together on the 19th day of February, 1752, made choice of us a Committee to draw up an answer to a petition of sundry Indians of Nantucket, preferred to your Honors in December last past. And we having weighed the matter fully are humbly of the opinion that the said petition is altogether ground less, their complaint being exhibited against the said proprietors for greatly oppressing them under sundry heads, viz. : about forty years ago the said Proprietors took away all their horses and have continued so to do ever since which assertion we find to be false for the said proprietors do not appear by any record to have impounded any horses or other beasts belonging to the Indians for many years last past, and we find in fact that the complainants forty years past and down to this day ever since did peaceably enjoy the pasturing of many horses and cattle and even Benjamin Jouab your pet'r the very head of the Faction doth at the time and hath for divers years past quietly enjoyed the pasturage of two horses being a right derived from the Onkawoom sachem by deed and so do all others of the Indians who by any means have obtained liberty from either of the sachems for

Pasturage of horses or cattle. All others tis true the said Proprietors have from time to time impounded and the Indians have often complained thereof to the Great and General Court unto whom the Proprietors have as often shown the justice of their proceedings and defended their course to the satisfaction of that August Assembly, and in no ways despair of doing the same again. By reason that all the rights they hold they purchase of the sachems who then subsisted (when the English first settled this Island of Nantucket in the years 1660 and 1661) and were by the Indian Inhabitants unanimously owned and acknowledged to be such, who were then in number, viz. :

NECOWNOOSOO,  
WANNUUCHMANMOG,  
ATTAPEHOT,

of whom and their decendants by virtue of a grant from the Government of New York to whom we were then subject and since upon our being annexed to this Province was ratified by this Court, they purchased all the lands and patronage they enjoy or claim and no other sachem was then known or acknowledged although Benjamin Jouab your p't'n'r claims half the Onkawoom sachemship under his great-grandfather Nekadotoounet, an elder brother as he saith to Wannuuchmanmog, neither man, name or claim ever heard of, as we can find, before now even by the oldest people here, divers of whom exceed four-score years.

It is a very ancient claim for Wannuuchmanmog, if he had till this time lived would have been 150 years old and upwards for he was a man in years when the Island was first settled and dyid beyond the memory of Man.

And as their planting land where any one hath obtained from the sachem any particular tract of land the said proprietor hath in no wise interrupted them in the peacable enjoyment thereof and it hath ever been and still is their



practice to Indulge them in the choice of any piece or parcel of land throughout a very large part of sd Island containing many hundreds of acres to plant in and the quantity without control or limitation and a great part of that which they plant they never hoe to effect but destroy our interest and their own too.

And as to others (who desired it) the Propriety have allotted certain tracts of land by metes and bounds more than a sufficiency for their own plantations and even more than they have occasion or desire to make use of, that though it was assigned to their use only they nevertheless often hire it out to the now proprietors for the sake of rum of which their desires are insatiate; and for which if not restrained they would hire out the whole Island, which would fall far short of sufficing them.

And as to the land inclosed in the absence of the complainant, we find that they had no design of the advantage of his absence for the setting up (of) that fence was many months before determined by the Proprietors legally warned and met on that occasion. And furthermore complainants have planted no land in that tract for many years past under any pretext of a planting right whatsoever. But the Proprietors have made use of it for meadow land which for lack of summer tending (feeding) is over run with Briars and other Rubbish which render it less profitable to the Owners to suppress which the Proprietors by a vote legally passed in the Proprietary have determined to pasture and feed the same with sheep, cattle, and horses without the least design of prejudice to the Indians. And we humbly conceive it can be no damage to the complainants.

And as to the complainants petition for the removal of tryals in real estate to some other County for that both judge and jurors are all interested, we answer—Tis fact as to the justices but not as to the jurors, for we have a

sufficiency of disinterested persons to compleat divers juries if occasion offers, nor hath it been the practice of our Courts to proceed otherwise; And since our Court is not fully Decicive, but on appeals in all civil cases are to the County of Suffolk, we humbly conceive your Honors will not deprive us of the Privileges granted to us by the aforesaid Government of New York and since confirmed to us by the Great and General Court of this Province, since we have done nothing to render us unworthy of the same.

May it Please Your Honors—

We are humbly of the opinion that the complaints are not grounded on any injustice offered by the said Proprietors to the complainants, but rather sprang from the instability of the Nation easily influenced by the instigation of evil-minded persons, who for some sinister ends stir them up to mischief even to perjuries and frequent forgeries, sundry of which have been self evident so others by clear evidence have been proved to be so.

And the deed that accompanies this complaint doubtless is one of that sort, and unquestionably will so appear to your Honors when your Honors reflect on Mr. Thomas Mayhew's fashion of witnessing the same, who was a Merchant and President of the Court of Dukes' County. But he appears in said deed to sign (Mr. Thomas Mayhew this my hand) which deed is said to be given by Niconnoosoo in the year 1668, written in the Indian tongue long before any Indian on this Island of Nantucket knew one letter in the alphabet, and pretended to be granted to Petepontum Noosoo, Wat Noosoo, James Noosoo, Paul Noosoo, the four sons of the said Necownoosoo, and the mark of Wauwinnet (among others) is set thereto as a witness who was son and heir to the said Necownoosoo, and in the year 1686 conveyed by deed the same lands beginning at the same bound to one of the

English Proprietors on sd Island, which deed was there recorded, and a great parts of the lands granted was there entered into and fenced by the Proprietors even in the lifetime of the said Pettepontum Noosoo, Wat Noosoo, James Noosoo and Paul Noosoo, who never claimed, challenged or demanded the same or any part thereof, nor their successors after their decease by virtue of any title by their pretended deed, notwithstanding it was held eighteen years after that was pretended to be given by their said father Necownoosoo's deed which deed was never recorded till the year 1745, at which time it jumped into the records of Duke's County, knight-errant like, or rather stole in there when it lay concealed till about two years past and then it appeared privately abroad and now in publick, but from whence it come or by whom made we know not; and finally we knowing the assertions to be true which we have herein represented are humbly of the opinion that your Honors will see cause to dismiss sd petition."

JEREMIAH GARDNER,  
JOSIAH COFFIN.

GUARDIANS' REPORT.

"To His Honor Spencer Phipps, Esq., Lieut-Governor,  
etc., etc.

May it please your Honor, we the subscribers, Guardians of the Indians at Nantucket, having been served with copys of a petition and other papers put into the Great and General Court in December last by Ben Jonab and other Indians of Nantucket, and with a copy of the order of your Honors thereon and pursuant to the order of your Honors we have notified the English proprietors of Nantucket with copy of said petition the Indians Testimony and said order of Court thereon;

And as to the abuse of the English towards the Indians as the Indians set forth in said petition, the first is that the English people for forty years past have taken away all their horses and cattle which is false and a groundless complaint, for every Indian on Nantucket that have right to keep them enjoy that Priviledge now unmolested which is many and the principall complaint, Ben-Jouab, hath a right for to keep two horses which he had of the Occowan Sachem, which he had always enjoyed without the least molestation by the English, and in the deeds of purchase which the English had of several sachems originally they received a considerable of rights for keeping horses for themselves and other Indians which they peaceably enjoy and always have except what they have since sold.

And as to their planting land which they say the English people have taken away, not suffering them to plant any in peace, is as manifestly false as their other complaints. For there is many of them that had considerable tracts of land given them and bounded heretofore by the several sachem which they have always enjoyed clear from molestation by the English, and those Indians that had no particular tracts of land allotted them by the sachems are all of them allowed to plant yearly as much as they want, and have large tracts to chose out of and yearly plant more than they hoe after it is planted, and they have hundreds of acres to choose out of for planting, so that they are not confined to poor land, and notwithstanding the Good and wholesome law of the Province they frequently for the sake of strong drink let some of the ill-minded English plant the best of this land and plant poorest themselves, and if they own the whole Island we are humbly of the (opinion) theyd waste and destroy most of the profits of same notwithstanding all the laws that are in favour of them they are so universally given to

strong drink to such a great degree, which we think together with the advice of some illminded persons for interest sake is the only motive of their uneasiness and pretended complaint.

And as farther touching their plantations notwithstanding the miserable care that they take of their corn, after it is planted, so that they have not above half a crop of corn in a general way, yet they have so little regard to their own welfare that as soon as their corn is ripe the greater part of them for the sake of rum begin to make sales of it so that they are out of corn before the winter is past, and by the spring of year that the English are obliged to supply them with corn on credit or they would go nigh to perish with hunger.

And the said Benjamin Jouab claims a tract of land by virtue of a writing said to be given by Nickanoosoo bearing date 1668.

We have taken considerable pains in searching into that writing and it seems to be self evident to be a forgery for it appeared originally writ in Indian translated into English by Mr. Experience Mayhew whereas the year that said writing bears date there was not an Indian on Nantucket that understood one letter in the alphabet, neither did there ever appear to be such a writing until about the time it crept on the records of Martha's Vineyard which was in the year 1745, they nor their fathers before all their lifetime never pretended or laid any claim to any such right neither doth said pretended deed carry any evidence with it to prove its validity so but that any Indian at any time may forge a number of such papers and date them far enough back and if they must be held valid and of any force they will destroy all the most authentick deeds that have been upon record for sixty years or more past. If they do but mind to date them far enough back from which no man can be sure of his property or

safe in that case, whereas John Swain late of Nantucket obtained a deed of purchase in 1680 of Wauwinnet the then avowed sachem, and son and heir unto the said Nickanoo-soo for the larger part of the same tract of land at the same bound specified in the Indian writing and running on the same course untill it comprised the greater part of sd Indian tract mentioned in their writing. And said John Swain under conveyance of said purchase unto the proprietors of Nantucket who immediately built sundry Houses thereon and improved the whole for above sixty year peaceably in the lives of the now claimers' ancestors who never demurred with them or laid any claim of any such right knowing the same to be honestly and legally sold as seems to appear.

And further the said Benjamin Jouab complains of a fence being lately set up which is prejudicial to them in their planting. The English have a large tract of land there of some thousands of acres which was so over-run rubage and bryers that it was almost destroyed as to its profits, and the motive that induced the English to be at such a great expense was that the stock or creatures might destroy the rubbage and make the ground fitter for other improvements again and for no other reason; sd fence takes in a small part of the land that Ben. Jouab claims by said writing which makes him mention that there is some few Indians that have some planting fields within said fence in the room of which the English have allowed them what land they want without the fence which they have planted to their satisfaction.

And Ben Jouab farther intimates that he owns half Occowa sachemship by virtue some former Indian sachem there he calls a lame sachem and by all that we can find out there never was any such lame sachem at Occowa or ever such pretence before for neither the oldest Englishman now nor Indian on Nantucket never heard of any such

sachem there and that the tribe Indian that lives there are ready to destroy him for making such pretence.

The English people when they first came on Nantucket found that Wannuckmoymok was the avowed sachem and lord of the said Occowa sachemship, and it has remained in the hands of him and his successors unto to this day, without the least demur and also the English always purchased of and sold Wannuckmoy was always the allowed sachem. The other Indians yearly paid their acknowledgments for their planting which as soon as the English purchased the sachems lost their profits that way which was some benefit to the Common Indians.

The English have always in favour to the Indians fenced their plantation land for them otherwise they would have had no corn which the English people were not obliged to do; the above as to us the subscribers seem the real facts as they now stand."

RICHARD COFFIN,  
ABISHAI FOLGER,  
Guardians unto the Indians  
of Nantucket.

June 5, 1752.

Then John Jouab and his friends further petitioned.

"Please Your Excellency :

The Humble Petition unto you, Gentlemen, in Boston, To be pleased to consider for us and help us in the General Court, because we have great deal trouble by reason the English at Nantucket they have taken away our English hay from us what the Indians have always mowed ten "clash" loads, and some of the Indians take it out clash and more for they say the English mowed great deal of English hay near about our houses besides what they have taken from the Indians; but they have mowed themselves.

These wrongs began in the tenth day of July 1752; now

we poor Indians we humbly pray you Gentlemen be pleased to consider how the English dealt with these Poor Indians at Nantucket, and English having their own cattle on our land which land belongs to all the town Indians.

And another trouble we have because the English take away our reeds and oak brush and swamp brush so we think this contrary to justice; byt that reason we humbly pray you, Gentlemen, be pleased to consider for us and help us in the Honorable General Court. We are desire your help cause we want.

If you can find the Indians should have any land do be make haste, let us have it or receive in our hand to make use of among ourselves because the English are too hard for us.

Another trouble we have; the English at Nantucket they own great many sheep and they never keep them well in the summer time. Now in the year 1752 sheep eat up great many acres of corn from Indians.

Now I John Jouab I say the English cattle eat up my two acres of corn in the year 1741, and English never pay me nothing I took for my two acres.

Now this year English cattle eat up my one acre of corn from me, and Englishman made no recompense for us for corn to this day. All which we desire this Honorable Court to do for us justice in this case.

Again another thing; we Indians we went whaling for the English said our masters, so we kept again in for our masters great many years we went fishing and we may pay what we took for our master's houses and one thing and another; but when Indian was dead then English master come to widow and take away things again, makes as if he did only lend it away these things; then poor widow and fatherless children may have nothing.

Looks exceeding hard for poor Indians; some time one Indian worth great deal; then when he dead great many



English folks come and sacrifice all things, then after they done they carry away things sometime nothing left, sometime little left.

Another trouble we have ; about the great men in town. Englishmen there they say “we look after the poor Indians,” and we poor Indians care not for any help from these chief men only we found there our folks come to our Indian town, take away our Indian hay near about our houses, and English folks following them owned cattle on our own land, which belongs to the town Indians altogether, and there was one great man in the English town named Abaisha Folger and then they say “We look after the poor Indians” another named Rochard Coffin, and we Indians cannot see any help only we found trouble which belongs to those men which say “We look after the poor Indian.”

I am John Jouab, poor man, and fear of God ; I am afraid speak falsely before the great and small, and will not speak no other but which is true before the great men, and before God. I will not lie if my friend desire me to tell lie.”

Witness, EBENEZER CAIN, His Mark.

Witness, SAMUEL HUMBREY, His Mark.

Witness, BENJAMIN JOUAB, His Mark.

Witness, JOHN JOUAB, His Mark.

I am John Jouab ; I have draw this writing with my hand September the eleventh, 1752.

The General Court finally passed an order June 13, 1753.

#### ON THE PETITION OF THE INDIANS OF NANTUCKET.

“The Committee appointed to consider the petition of a number of Indians of Nantucket have met and heard the said Indians report as in their opinion that Roland Cotton

and David Crocker, Esqs., with such as the Honorable Board shall join, be a committee appointed and empowered to repair to the Island of Nantucket as soon as may be and make inquiry into the grievances suggested and complained of by the Indians in their petition and other papers accompanying the same, and all other matters of complaint now existing.

That the Committee have power to send for persons and papers as occasion may be that they endeavor an accommodation of their differences between the English and Indians and make report to this Court of their doings therein and of what they shall judge proper for this Court to do further therein."

But there is no record that the committee ever went.

A PETITION OCTOBER, 1754.

"Humbly shew we (the) subscribers, Indians native and Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket that we must once more beg your Excellencys and Honors to hear our distressed circumstances and that you will be pleased to take some effectual measures that we be releaved and extricated out of our difficulties, which are as followeth, viz. :

We are at this day rightful owners of a considerable part of the valuable lands on the said Island of Nantucket. But as we are there on said Island and none to take our part the English Proprietors there have taken our lands from us and improve them and allow us no more privilege than only enough to sett our house upon and a small garden. We can't keep a cow, horse or sheep unless we will submit to hire the privilege of the English and when we offer to keep any creatures other ways may impound them and put us to near as much costs as the creatures are worth. One or two instances we beg leave to mention.

John Toshama in January, 1753, who as he supposed

has a privilege right to keep a cow and one horse to run and feed on the Island had his cow taken up at that time. In the year by Zephaniah Coffin and Able Gardener and impounded, and he was obliged to pay two pounds twelve shillings lawful money afore he could have his cow out of pound or go to law with them which he was in no capacity to do and has ever since been obliged to keep his cow tied up to prevent a second opportunity.

2ndly. Some of our said lands particularly at the west end of said Island by the Court held at Edgartown June 20, 1672, were settled upon our predecessors and their heirs none to be sold or alienated from them without the consent of them or heirs and the sachem. Which said settlement remains undisturbed till this day and our.

To have these very lands improved by the English and ourselves forcibly kept out of the improvement of any of them.

Many more instances to say of hard usage from the English to the Indians might be mentioned but as sundry of them have been heretofore told of in the several petitions that were lately preferred to your Excellency and Honors therefore we would not be further tedious or troublesome.

But only once more to beg your Excellency and Honors to take our distressed circumstances into your wise consideration to receive our former petitions and take some effectual measures that we may have at least the same justice done us as other of His Majesty's good subjects have reason always to expect under your Excellency's and Honors wise protectors, and that you will be pleased to appoint some gentlemen that stand indifferent, to make a particular inquiry into our titles and the usage we have received from the English on said Island from time to time and report the same to your Excellency and Honors so that we may be extricated out of our pressing

difficulties or otherwise to relieve us as you in your great wisdom shall see meet and in duty bound shall ever pray, etc."

His  
JOHN X TASHIAMA,  
Mark.

Another Committee was ordered to Nantucket in Sept., 1755, but it never went.

Aug. 29, 1757. The Committee with Mr. Foster and Mr. Barron with such as the Board shall appoint shall go to Nantucket to investigate complaints of some years' standing, hear the parties, and report what they judge proper for the Court to do therein; the several committees formerly appointed for that purpose not having been able to attend to that service.

This committee probably went to Nantucket, because the account given by Obed Macy seems to confirm this inference. But they never made any report that has been preserved.

With the order that the Committee visit Nantucket the record in the State House ends. No report of the Committee can be found, and how the matter was decided is left to conjecture.

In Macy's History of Nantucket, on pages 59 to 61, is an account of the controversy which has been heretofore described. He states that the petition was pending in the Supreme Courts and that a judge went to Nantucket and that the case was heard and argued and a decision rendered in favor of the English. In this account Macy relates what probably contained some truth, but also considerable error.

1. It is undoubtedly true that the tribunal, whatever it may have been, went to Nantucket and found the Town House too small for the purpose, and used the meeting-house for the trial.

2. There was no Supreme Court in those days, and the petition which is quoted by Macy could not have been tried in a court of law; the fact probably was that instead of the Supreme Court the General Court was intended by the person who informed Macy.

3. He says the petition of 1702 continued before the Court for many years, and was finally decided in 1753, but it has been shown that this matter was settled by a committee in 1703, and that the controversy subsequent to 1741 took place long after Spotswood had died.

4. He says that the petition of 1702 was brought about by the English, as they desired to have the complaint settled, and it is to be inferred from his account that this was the only petition brought by the Indians. This is a mistake, for there were many other petitions brought by the Indians and were settled as convenience allowed. It is incredible that having obtained a decision in 1703 the English should invite other attacks accompanied by forged wills and encourage a controversy that continued over fifty years. It may have been possible, but not probable, that the 1702 petition was not objected to by the English, but it cannot be admitted that they took kindly to the later disputes; having obtained one favorable decision, they would not permit their title to be disturbed.

5. Macy says that a Judge came in 1753, and a description of the proceedings is given. Probably this date is incorrect, and the fact probably is that the committee of the Legislature with two of Boston's ablest attorneys went to Nantucket in 1757 or 1758, instead of 1753, and that a hearing was had in some public place, according to the usage in such cases, and witnesses were

heard and quite likely some members of the committee argued the two sides of the case. Then the chairman, quite likely one of the lawyers—who in those days were usually called judges—gave the decision of the committee, and the Indians retired as Macy describes.

But as no record was kept of the proceedings Macy must have received the material for his description from tradition, and many of the details became obscured and changed.

It is to be regretted that no report of the committee can be found.

No further attempt by the Indians was ever made to regain their lands. It is stated that the last of the Indian race died in 1822.

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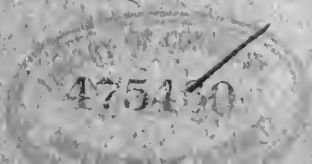
BY

HENRY BARNARD WORTH.

PUBLISHED BY  
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1904.

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## CHAPTER IX.

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### *Sheep Commons and the Proprietary.*

In the History of Land Titles of Massachusetts, written by James Sullivan in 1807, is the statement that Nantucket titles were obtained by purchase from the Indians, thereby suggesting that there was nothing else worthy of mention. Macy dismisses the subject with the remark that a description of the land system would interest only a few, and so he passes to more edifying matters. What, therefore, no person has attempted to accomplish is the object of this work; and it will be discovered that this curious system and its development in the Island community are full of historical interest.

In the early period of our colonial history large tracts of land, in various parts of the Province, were from time to time granted by the Government to individuals, who organized themselves under the law into a Proprietary; kept records of their proceedings, managed and divided the land, and disposed of the same by a majority vote duly recorded in their books of record. When the locality had become sufficiently settled it was incorporated into a town. Such was the origin of all towns in this Commonwealth.

So it appears that a Proprietary is a collection of individuals who own and propose to hold in common some tract of land or wharf, organized under the law, having officers and by-laws. Their proceedings were conducted like corporation meetings, yet Proprietaries were never incorporated. Their business was transacted very similar to the New England town meeting, to which they were

closely related. The presiding officer was the "moderator" and the secretary was "clerk," and he was usually, if convenient, the local Register of Deeds, and in his office the Books of Record were generally kept.

It is an interesting story to read how this custom of our Teutonic ancestors in the German forests crossed two oceans and is found with its constant companion — the Town Meeting, in New England, exhibiting the same features described by Tacitus as being in full development twenty centuries ago in the wilds of Germany. Every town started as a Proprietary, and the settlers of Nantucket, who had lived several years in Massachusetts Bay Colony, were well acquainted with its details and objects.

According to the usual plan when a Proprietary was formed, the first step was to provide house lots or homesteads. These were of such extent as the situation permitted, but were clustered together to form a village. In this the Proprietary differed widely from the Plantations of the southern colonies, where there were no towns or grouping of house lots. The village section at Nantucket has been already shown to have originated about Capaum harbor and southward. As land was abundant and cheap, the settlers decided to allow tracts one thousand feet square to each full share owner, and to half share men a tract half as large. The large tracts comprised about twenty acres.

Having the house lots or homesteads in one locality, it was possible to hold, control and manage the remaining land for agriculture or grazing. In two respects this was an advantage. The early settlers were not wealthy and could not own large tracts of land separate from each other. Grazing required much room for herds to wander about. Then, if the land were owned by single individuals, each could compel his neighbor to maintain fences.

This would be a hardship and expense, and would interrupt the free movement of sheep where there was food and water. Separate ownership might not only obstruct but prevent successful sheep raising. But holding the land undivided and in common exactly accomplished the desired result.

Membership in a Proprietary consisted only in owning an interest in the common land. Hence, if one sold his interest he ceased to be, and his grantee thereby became, a Proprietor. The Nantucket Proprietary started in fact when the purchasers received the deed from Mayhew, July 2d, 1659, but the contract for purchase must have been made some months earlier. In the Record Book is an account of a meeting of the Purchasers in Salisbury at the house of Benjamin Kimball, in February, 1659. The first association comprised ten men, and at this meeting an order was adopted allowing each of the ten to select a partner who should be admitted into the company, making the whole number twenty. They then "determined and concluded that no man whatsoever shall purchase any land of any of the Indians upon the sd yland for his own or other private or pticular use. but whatsoever purchase shall be made shall be for ye generall accompt of ye twenty owners or purchasers. And whatsoever pson shall purchase any land upon any other accompt it shall be accompted voyd and null except what is done by licence from ye sd owners or purchasers."

This precautionary measure had two purposes. Already it had been discovered that the red men were eager to sign deeds of land for some trifling consideration as long as a part consisted of liquor. The order was intended to prevent any such advantage being taken by enterprising speculators.

About twenty years before a Salem minister named Roger Williams promulgated the dangerous doctrine that

land tenure in New England based on grants from the English crown were unsound and void; that the right of discovery was not equal to the right of possession which rested in the Indians. He claimed, therefore, that no title was valid which was not founded on an Indian deed. The subject was then and always has been full of perplexity. Mayhew's title was from the English government. If some other person should acquire title from the Sachems there would arise a conflict as to which had the best claim. The only way to avoid this confusion was to forbid any purchase from the Indians except for the whole body of owners. At a later meeting in Salisbury they declared that this order "shall stand inviolable and unalterable as necessary to the well being of the place and the contrary tends to ye confusion and ruine of the whole and the subverting of the rule and orders already agreed upon and the depriving of the owners of their just rights and interests." This policy was strictly followed by the English until every foot of land on the island had been conveyed by the red men to the Proprietary.

The third vote related to securing tradesmen and mechanics already mentioned.

At the second meeting Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy, Edward Starbuck, Thomas Barnard and Peter ffoulger of Marthas Vineyard were empowered to measure and lay out convenient house lots, and "whatsoever shall be done by them or any three of them, Peter ffoulger being one, shall be accopted legal and valid."

The reason for selecting these men was that they had been to Nantucket and were acquainted with the locality.

Then followed over two years during which no action has been recorded. There is evidence that some of the purchasers had revisited the island and it may be inferred that some kind of building was in progress preparatory to the arrival of the settlers. A record of a meeting at Salis-

bury, May 10, 1661, indicates that the same five men were to measure and lay out all the rest of the lands on the island; to determine what lands shall remain common; and Mayhew, Richard Swain and John Bishop or what other owners that may be on Nantucket to lay out the town. They provided that Coffin, Starbuck, Macy and Swain should have the house lots already chosen and the rest should select by casting lots.

Two sets of records were to be kept, those in Salisbury by Robert Pyke and at Nantucket by Thomas Macy.

July 15, 1661, the record begins, "at a meeting on Nantucket" it was agreed that each house lot "shall contain sixty rods square to a whole share."

Although a technical proprietary existed as soon as the Mayhew deed of July 2, 1659, was delivered, yet the owners were always designated as "purchasers" or "freeholders." This name was retained until the issuance of the Dongan Patent in 1687, and then for some years they were styled "freeholders and comonalty of the town of Sherborn."\* The title "Proprietors of the common and undivided lands of the Island of Nantucket" was adopted after 1700.

As elsewhere in New England, the term "Proprietors" seems to have been very popular at Nantucket. The name of the Orthodox church is the Proprietors of the the First Congregational Meeting House, and the Unitarians have the same name except theirs is the Second. Members of the Atheneum Corporation are Proprietors.

To understand the records of the land owners the peculiar situation must be kept in mind. Until 1692 Nantucket was part of New York Colony. When the island was settled the Proprietors decreed that only land owners could be citizens. So the only persons who could vote in town

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\*Copies of the Lovelace and Dongan Patents may be found in the Introduction of the Genealogy of the Macy Family.

meeting were the same individuals that constituted the Proprietary, and in the meetings and records the distinction between the town as a municipal body and the Proprietors as a private association was often overlooked. Thus at meetings of the Freeholders business of a municipal character was transacted, and at meetings of the town votes were passed relating to common land; and in some meetings both were considered. As long as the original definition of citizenship continued no harm resulted. But when Nantucket was annexed to Massachusetts in 1692 the law of the Province respecting citizenship became operative on the island, and as a result some men who were not freeholders became voters. So the body known as Proprietors was no longer identical with the voters of the town. For a few years the records of both were kept in the same books, but in 1716 the situation required a departure from the ancient method. From December of that year the Proprietary and the town held their meetings and kept their records separate from each other.

In all business of the Nantucket Proprietors there has been exhibited an equitable method of dealing with each other which might be traced to a spirit of benevolence among the land owners which did not appear in other relations. It was probably found to be the only safe rule in such a democratic body to treat all members alike and fairly, and allow none to obtain any advantage not shared by all.

The Proprietors exercised a wide jurisdiction over affairs on the island, and controlled in some matters now managed only by the town or state. In 1676 Thomas Macy and Peter Coffin were licensed to take fish with nets in Mattaket creek. Joseph Coffin was granted permission to build Straight wharf in 1716. In 1758 they paid a bounty of eight pence for crows. At the same period they ordered that no tent or booth be erected near the shearing

pens under penalty of thirty shillings. They refused to build a public market near the wharf or allow any one to do so. In 1754 they voted to allow John Coffin and his associates, for one year, to dig on Siasconset Beach, and have what they found.

As soon as they settled the island the land owners had to adopt names for localities. Only a few are of English derivation. Northam, where Tristram Coffin lived, Uppertown and Middletown never became permanent. Newtown still applies to an indefinite region south of Main street. Wheeler's Creek is near the Asylum, but why thus named cannot be discovered. Most of the names are of Indian origin, but many have been changed from the first form recorded and some beyond recognition. Muskeikat, Mattaket, Tuckernucket, Sasagacha, Nopadea, Mattaquecham, Sauckatuck, Myoakes, Aquitnet suggest the forms now in use. Monomoy, Shimmo, Squam, and Siasconset remain unchanged. Coittu and Cowatue indicate an attempt to encompass an Indian sound by English letters. Wesquo or Wescoe meant "White Rock," and denoted the location of the present town. It is said that the quartz boulder which gave the name was situated near the Masonic building. Paquomoquat, Pawqumok, and several other similar forms were in use before 1700. The modern Consue was first Quansue. The most singular departure from the original is the modern Polpis. The first name was Poatpes or Portpace, both of which were in use as late as the Revolutionary war. Subsequently the derivative Podpis was adopted. Ewer's map in 1869 uses this form. Polpis cannot be justified on any ground.

Bochochico denotes the region near the Atheneum. Professor Henry Mitchell suggested that this name, possibly Spanish, was applied to that locality because it meant "little river," and there was a creek that extended up into what is now Pearl street.

Only three streams on the island provided power enough to turn a water wheel ; the outlet from the Lily, then called Wescoe Pond, which extended along Chester street to the harbor ; the Mill Brook, which flows from the swamp to the north, near the Hosier farm to Hummock Pond ; and the stream which was called Stony Brook and empties into Podpis Harbor. Neither of these furnished any extensive power, because there were no rapids or falls. But the settlers were obliged to utilize these or resort to horse or wind power.

The first necessity was a grist mill. Fulling and carding mills were introduced later. No saw mill is mentioned in the records, probably because there was no timber to demand such an enterprise.

In the first years after settling on the island the brook from Wesco Pond was considered. In October, 1665, the Proprietary voted to build a horse mill and John Bishop was to be the builder. The next spring this plan was abandoned and a water mill was to be constructed at Wesco Pond. This stream in modern times has scarcely enough fall to carry off the water of the pond and during many months is dry. Even if the pond were raised by a dam to the highest level, the strength of the head of water would be of limited value. The tradition and description in the records indicate that the mill was between Center and North Water streets on Chester.

June 10, 1667, Peter Folger was employed to keep the mill and receive as toll two quarts to the bushel and an extra quart from strangers.

William Bunker agreed in 1672 to build a new mill and to receive forty pounds and half a share of land. For some reason he neglected or failed to carry out the contract, and Tristram Coffin undertook the job. But Coffin in September, 1673, had not done anything, and the town appointed Richard and John Gardner and Thomas Macy



to build a tide mill upon the creek "behither Wesco," somewhere near the old mill. The cost was to be fifty pounds in money and half a share of land. They placed the mill on the brook, probably near the corner of Center street, and 1676 the town granted the old mill to John Gardner and John Swain that they might equip it as a fulling mill. The new mill was paid from a public tax. This was the last enterprise undertaken by the town or Proprietors.

The stream at Poatpes was never used by the Proprietary but for some years they exercised a control over it. It was granted in 1708 to Benjamin Wyers and later to Benjamin Swain to set up a fulling mill, but he failed to supply the town's needs, and in 1717 it was granted for the same purpose to Silvanus Hussey and Stephen Coffin, Jr. In 1721 it was granted to Hussey alone "as long as he shall maintain a dam and supply the town needs." Two years later it was again granted to Benjamin Swain. In 1746 the Proprietors granted the same stream at Poatpes to John Swain, "England," and Samuel Moxey, "to full, press, shear and dye cloth."

The Wescoe brook in 1722 was granted to Eleazer Folger "to damm and set up a fulling mill."

It was probably found that the power furnished by the two brooks was strong enough only for a weaving mill, and so they were abandoned for grist mill purposes, and wind mills thereafter did the grinding. In 1717, near Daniel Russell's, was a wind mill and others are mentioned later.

For many years no reference appears to have been made to a fulling mill. In 1768 a committee of the Proprietors was appointed to make an arrangement about some clothier carrying on a fulling mill. Later the committee was ordered to see what agreement could be made with James Skiff to full cloth and the cost of fitting up the mill.

Later a committee was directed to erect a fulling mill at Poatpes. It seems doubtful if any action was taken, because in 1770 the Proprietors voted to see if a mill could be operated by a stream at Showaukemo, which is some distance nearer town. Some complaint was made about flowing land in the latter locality, and so the owners who suffered damage were given the same amount of land where used to be the old pond at Poatpes. 1772 John Jessop was the miller and operated more than one mill. William Nichol was the miller. 1741, Tristram Starbuck and Zaccheus Macy were authorized to set up a fulling mill on the Mill Brook near Hummock Pond.

Wind mills were in existence, probably on Mill Hill, in 1747. The present mill is said to have been built in 1746.

In 1776 there were three wind mills, the westernmost being Samuel Bunker's.

Quite likely the old Indian trails were adopted as roads. Thomas Coleman and Richard Swain were chosen in 1664 surveyors of highways. At a meeting of the inhabitants Nov. 20, 1669, the Selectmen or Prudential Men were empowered to lay out highways according to their discretion. If under this authority any ways were laid out no record was preserved, and the only information must be gathered from contemporary deeds.

The earliest way is that now called Chester street, which extended from the Homestead section east to the Great Harbor. In 1667 this road was used from Cappamet to the mill. William Gayer built his house between Center and North Water street in 1683, and the present Center street was then a cart way. In 1665 Crooked or Long Lane, which now passes the farm of William H. H. Smith, was in use. Other ways will be mentioned in the descriptions of land divisions. Many streets were opened by owners and adopted by the public by actual use. The

unfenced tracts on the island were crossed by travellers at will, and roads to outlying points were changing from year to year. Recorded layouts were not frequent before 1846.

The difficulty in determining how to apportion pasturage among the land owners led to much perplexity.

In September, 1672, each whole share man was allowed to pasture 23 sheep. In 1689, when more land had been purchased from the Indians, each share was entitled to two horses, forty cows or one hundred sheep. In 1706 the proportion was one horse, two cows or sixteen sheep. There was continual controversy about the number of sheep pastured. The Proprietors asserted that the island was overstocked and that men owning no land were pasturing sheep on the commons. Some men were determined to obtain all pasturage possible. As a result the Proprietors issued orders and mandates to counteract this infringement. The end of the contest will be described hereafter in the "Sheep War."

An incident to the pasturage business was the necessity of fences to keep the cattle and sheep of the English from lands not yet sold by the Indians. The first boundaries were the Hummock Pond and a line drawn from the mouth of the Mill Brook to the creek at the Nantucket Harbor. For keeping cattle from trespassing a ditch was dug from Hummock Pond to the ocean; but on the long line between the pond and Wheeler's Creek at Monomoy a fence had to be built. Later, when the English bought from the Indians land south and east of the town, gates were cut through the fence where roads extended. On Orange street was the Newton gate and further west were other gates or bars. This fence was maintained after 1800, in order that sheep on the commons could be kept from the town.

Whether Nantucket was heavily wooded when the Eng-

lish came is no concern of this work. Frequent references to wood and trees appear in the records, but how large they were can only be inferred from collateral facts. In 1663 an order was passed that "no man shall cut any timber on Cowatu except for building houses." In 1676 they forbid cutting green trees for post rails or for the bark. In 1685 any owner could cut pines for whale boats. The wood question was confined to Coatue, and orders and decrees were frequent about "sedars and pines."

Whatever wood there may have been on this point, no saw mill was ever established on the island in early times.

Each owner at first had a homestead of over twenty acres. Then the grass meadows under the cliff from the Great Spring around to Monomoy were assigned to the Proprietors, one acre to each. In like manner the Pocomo meadows were divided. As the number of families increased, sons married and built houses on the ancestral home lot, but the demand for more land soon became apparent. There were scattered over the island numerous small areas of fertile land, too small to divide and yet capable of yielding an advantageous crop. In 1663 Tristram Coffin, John Bishop, Robert Barnard and Peter Folger were directed to lay out corn fields. In 1669 each owner was directed to sow on the common land a bushel of grass seed. In 1672 a harrow was purchased for the public use. The Proprietors' committee each year designated where the planting land was to be used. These were selected in localities where the land was fertile and well watered. No record was made of the localities used in this transient way.

In measuring and defining lots of land a surveyor was needed. This was one of the accomplishments of Peter Folger, and when he died in 1680 William Worth and William Gayer engaged in this pursuit. It is easy to infer that these men were mariners and that navigation was the

basis of their knowledge of surveying. When a course is stated "south southwest  $\frac{1}{2}$  west," it is clear that a mariner's compass was the instrument used. It would be erroneous to say that these men were successful in this occupation. They referred tracts of land to such fleeting boundaries as "a house," "a tree," "a swamp," and as will hereafter appear in sixty years their poor work had caused great trouble and confusion. It is not possible to identify, except approximately, any layouts before 1700, and not every one before 1800.

Most of the recorded plans refer to no fixed object with which to connect them. Many of the plans will not "close up," there being errors in courses or distances.

As fast as deeds were received from the Indians the Proprietors arranged for extending the house lots. The shore from Pocomo to Wheeler's Creek was among the early purchases from the Sachems, and Stephen Hussey built a house a Monomoy. John Swain's confirmation grant of the neck at Podpis was dated 1684, but he may have built there earlier. Ben Abel gave a deed of Southeast Quarter in 1742. Siasconset Path is mentioned in 1725, and the section was used for pasture. The first grant at Siasconset was made to Abel Gardner in 1747. The land north of the Gulley was laid out in strips eighteen rods east and west and three rods wide in 1758, and at this date Siasconset became a fishing village. A few houses were built by the English at Quidnet for fishing purposes before 1700.

The first mention of a wharf is dated 1716, when Joseph Coffin is allowed to build a "wharf at ye old landing forty feet wide, and it shall be his privilege so long as he keeps it in good repair." Presumably he complied with this requirement, because the grant seems to have been permanent. Only by inference is it possible to determine when the other wharves were built. The next recorded refer-

ence is in November, 1774, when land is granted on each side of the South, Old or Straight, North, and New North wharves. What few facts were recorded lead to the inference that while the Old wharf might have been built before 1720, the other three were built not much before 1774. The Commercial wharf, now the southernmost, was built after 1800.

The owners of these four wharves will serve to indicate the persons who were prominent in business affairs in 1774. Their names and shares were as follows :

*South Wharf.*

Joseph Rotch	45	Seth Macy	97
Zacchens Macy	602	Reuben Swain	78
Paul Bunker	25	Josiah Barker	301
Richard Chadwick	94	Jonathan Burnell	216
Tristram Starbuck	255	Johh Way's heirs	40
Nathaniel Macy	61	Ebenezer Calef, Esq.	327
John Coffin	371	Zehaneah Coffin	98
Richard Mitchell	405	Josiah Coffin	327

3,050 shares.

*Straight Wharf.*

At the foot of Main Street.

Nathaniel Macy	79	Caleb Bunker	99
Jethro Coleman	45	George Hussey	24
Zephaniah Coffin	396	Reuben Gardner & Co.	82
Seth Macy	97	William Swain, 2d	18
Josiah Barker	452	Edward Starbuck	123
Thomas Starbuck	247	Obed Hussey	70
William Starbuck heirs	114	Daniel Gardner	180
Thomas Gardner	112	Jethro Gardner heirs	105
Grafton Gardner	128	William Gardner & Co.	135
Samuel Starbuck	47	Robert Gardner	55

Robert Barnard heirs	47	Enoch Gardner	135
Caleb Macy	189	David Coffin	142
Tristram Swain	9	Christopher Starbuck	12
Abishai Folger	18	Benjamin Barney	100
Richard Macy	187	Seth Swain heirs	19
Reuben Swain	127	John Macy	170
Joseph Macy heirs	90	Francis Macy	98
Francis Brown & Co.	198	Jonathan Macy	124
Thomas Jenkins & Co.	9	William Rotch	549

4,831 shares.

*Old North Wharf.*

Reuben Swain	21	Zephaniah Coffin	226
Jonathan Burnell	142	Thomas Starbuck	111
John Ways heirs	98	William Starbuck heirs	50
Thomas Gardner	194	Grafton Gardner	224
Seth Macy	48	Samuel Starbuck	18
William Hussey	84	William Coffin	120
Robert Barnard heirs	43	Margaret Bunker	99
Timothy Folger	9	George Bunker	84
Bethuel Gardner	222	Caleb Macy	161
Tristram Swain	9	Abishai Folger	82
Timothy Coleman & Co.	25	Caleb Bunker	82
Jonathan & Joseph Swain	112	Joseph Hussey	90
Charles & Timothy Swain	206	Christopher Hussey	60
George Hussey	21	Nathaniel Hussey heirs	71
Batchelor Hussey	62	Richard Coffin	51
Richard Coffin & Co.	190	Reuben Gardner	87
Jonathan Coffin heirs	280		

3,344 shares.

*New North Wharf.*

Present Steamboat Wharf.

Zaccheus Macy	150	Ebenezer Calef	22
Paul Bunker	9	Alexander Gardner	138

Reuben Swain	78	Grafton Gardner	160
Samuel Starbuck	36	William Hussey	8
Caleb Macy	66	George Hussey	15
Batchelor Hussey	22	Richard Coffin	17
Thomas Jenkins	38	Shubael Barnard	81
Daniel Folger	60	Barzillai Folger	60
Benjamin Folger	60	David Joy	22
George Folger	8	Jethro Hussey	180
Stephen Paddock	8	Richard Mitchell, Jr.	94
Benjamin Coffin	42	Elheezer Calef	141

1,515 shares.

The term "sheep commons" is regarded as importing some technical meaning not readily understood, while the fact is that it is easily comprehended. During the years from 1720 to 1740 in the deeds occur the expressions "horse commons" and "cow commons." They are merely variations of the "sheep commons" when applied to horses and cows.

"Sheep's common" is first mentioned about 1716 in a deed from Eleazer Folger. It meant pasturage for one sheep on the common and undivided lands, and was thus frequently described. Thus a person owning that right could turn out one sheep to roam over the commons. This term came ultimately to denote a fractional part of the common land. The Proprietors seem to have estimated that an acre of common land would maintain one sheep. The survey of the land held in common indicated 19,440 acres, so that number of sheep could be pastured on the common land. A "sheep's common" meant the right to pasture one sheep, and also it was  $\frac{1}{19440}$  of the common land. This term therefore indicated how much in the common land a man owned and how many sheep he could pasture.

The reason for adopting this singular designation is in-



teresting. The Proprietors of common land in Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth Colony had only one object, which was to divide the land among the owners as speedily as it could conveniently be surveyed and investigated. In most cases the entire land was divided before the year 1700. Only a few Proprietaries existed in 1800, and in 1900 that in Nantucket was the only one remaining in the state. At Nantucket a widely different purpose animated the settlers. The thousand hills and vales were to remain common and undivided as one vast pasture over which sheep could roam in search of food and water. Grazing was to be the permanent use of this extensive area. Ultimate division was never contemplated.

The original owners comprised twenty Proprietors who owned one share each and fourteen who owned each half a share. The island common land was held in twenty-seven shares. The families were large and these shares in a few generations would be subdivided into very small fractions. Thus a man who owned a share or  $\frac{1}{27}$  of the common land might have ten children, and each would own  $\frac{1}{270}$ . The next generation might own  $\frac{1}{2700}$  each. A division of one share as a unit would in a century produce interests denoted by fractions with large denominators, such a notation was exceedingly cumbrous and the only escape was to adopt a unit much smaller than a share. The "sheep commons" exactly met the requirement. If a man owned  $\frac{1}{270}$  of a share, its exact equivalent was 27 sheep commons and the latter beside being less awkward served the two useful purposes already noticed.

The term came into general use just before the Revolution and has remained ever since.

Some owners of common land did not pasture thereon any sheep and others not as many as their sheep commons allowed while there were always some who main-

tained more than their interests justified. Attempts were made by the Proprietors to regulate this trespass but without success. Finally in 1845 the Proprietors resorted to the law to enforce their rights. They persuaded Thomas B. Field, Elisha M. Hinckley, Joseph Vincent, George and Oliver W. Easton, field drivers to impound sheep illegally at large on the commons. At one time they had impounded 2000 sheep. Eminent lawyers were employed and numerous lawsuits ensued. It was known as the "Sheep War." In some cases the sheep owners and in others the field drivers were successful. But a force was at work which settled the controversy beyond appeal. Nantucket could no longer compete with the grazing districts of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and the West, and when the lawsuits had closed the sheep industry on the island suddenly ended. Sheep marking and shearing were two interesting incidents of this occupation.

In June, 1665, the Proprietors ordered that each man should adopt an ear mark, and they were recorded. A severe penalty was named if one of these marks was altered. The process of marking was in charge of a committee. These marks consisted in cutting off certain parts of the ears or making slots or holes therein. The designs were few in number, but by changing their position on one or both ears or by combination an endless variety could be formed.

The first mention of shearing is dated 1676. The time finally adopted was the Monday nearest the 20th of June. Extensive areas near the ponds were fenced and called shear-pens. The sheep were driven into these enclosures from every part of the island. Here they were washed and identified by the owners. Then came shearing day which resembled the modern county fair. The last shearing occurred in 1847, and now only the old men know the location of the pens.

In all divisions of land before 1800 the plan followed required that each owner should receive at one and the same time his proportion. Thus when the Fish lots were laid out every owner had a part of the same value proportionately as every other part. But in the common and undivided lands outside, each still held his ownership.

The plan was modified in 1815 and reference will be made thereto hereafter.

Having allotted to each Proprietor a house lot and meadows in 1661 to 1665 no other division was made until 1678 when Wesco acre lots were set off. This division was bounded south by Liberty; east by Federal; west by North Liberty; and north by Broad street and its line extended west. The present corner of Federal and Main streets is between twenty and thirty feet north of its original location, and in 1678 was on a line with the north line of Liberty street. But after the 1846 fire the town widened the square by setting back the buildings between Center and Federal streets. At the time of this division several streets were laid out: Center street from Liberty to Broad; Liberty the entire length of the division; Federal along the east side. Broad street is not mentioned, but was then probably in existence. Center street further north was only a cart path. Pearl street was established and separated the share of Peter Coffin on the north from the Swain share on the south. The narrow lane which now extends along the north side of the Methodist church was a later creation. This lane extended east of Center to Federal. The present engine house is across its location. In order that each owner might have a frontage on the salt water which came up to Federal street, the shares were made two rods wide and eighty rods long in form not unlike a yard stick to which they have been compared. The space between Broad and Liberty streets allowed twenty such strips and one was allotted to each of

the first twenty Proprietors in the following order beginning at the north and proceeding south :

<i>First Squadron</i> —John Bishop,	share 1
Wm. Pille,	“ 2
Steven Greenleaf,	“ 3
Thomas Coleman,	“ 4
<i>Second Squadron</i> —Robert Pike,	share 1
Nathaniel Barnard,	“ 2
Christopher Hussey,	“ 3
John Smith,	“ 4
<i>Third Squadron</i> —Tristram Coffin,	share 1
Tristram Coffin, Jr.,	“ 2
James Coffin,	“ 3
Peter Coffin,	“ 4
<i>Fourth Squadron</i> —Four lots to John and Richard Swain.	
<i>Fifth Squadron</i> —Thomas Mayhew,	share 1
Nathaniel Barnard,	“ 2
Nathaniel Starbuck,	“ 3
Edward Starbuck,	“ 4

The other owners were either given land elsewhere or had already received their proportion. The tract between Center and North Water streets from Broad to Ash lane was assigned to Thomas Macy, and the lot north to Ash street to William Worth ; the half acre next north to Step lane to John Gardner, and the rest to Chester street was set off to Richard Gardner, Jr.

Richard Gardner, Senior, was omitted in the Wesco acre division because his grant on Academy Hill included his proportion. The Folgers received their part later on Main street.

No other land was divided for nearly forty years. House lots and meadows had been set off in sufficient amounts for one generation.

When Wesco lots were divided, the inhabitants supposed that the center of the population would be near the No Bottom Pond. Some were expected to settle at Wesco. Edward Cartwright bought land in 1678 at Pocomo. The Swains were preparing to move to Podpis. The Husseys lived at Monomoy. Richard and John Gardner lived at North shore and were the easternmost residents at Wesco. A few moved their homes from Capaum to Wesco, but no important change took place before 1700. Capaum Harbor was the landing place, and town meetings were held in Edward Starbuck's house. But at some date after 1700 an event occurred which caused the Islanders to abandon Capaum for Wesco as a residential section. Capaum Harbor was open in 1698 according to the testimony of a Quaker missionary. But in 1722 it had been closed by a storm, and a map describes it as a pond. The land records about 1717 show a marked activity in buying and selling land at Wesco, and divisions were laid out on the Harbor south of Main street. It seems probable that the closing of Capaum Harbor occurred at this time.

At the south of Main street to the line separating the English from the Indians, the land was common and undivided, and as new house lots were needed, the inhabitants turned their attention to this region.

Two tracts seemed desirable. One on Wesco Hill or Quantaty Bank, where the Unitarian church stands, and the other across the Harbor at Shimmo, and both were divided simultaneously in August 1717.

From the fact that Shimmo was never inclosed and occupied, no mark of identification exists whereby this tract can be located. It was situated somewhere east of the

Monomoy ; was rectangular, and 167 rods north and south and 100 rods east and west. It began at a point 21 rods southwest from the southwest corner of a fresh pond which is westward of Thomas Bunker's house. The 27 shares were set off to the persons according to the schedule hereafter inserted. This situation is an excellent illustration of the prevailing difficulty concerning land titles at Nantucket which will be described at length hereafter. The owners of the four principal divisions in the present town are given in a schedule hereafter.

An examination of this schedule shows one significant change which had taken place since the division of Wesco lots. In the former division each owner had an entire share, and now many of the shares were held by several ; because, only a few had ownership large enough to entitle them to a whole share.

The Fish Lot division was the most important laid out out on the island and soon became densely populated. It began at a point on the hill back of the Masonic building, on the corner of Union and Main streets, at about where is the house of Mrs. Mary Hussey, and extended west fifty rods which brought the line to the junction of Main street and Rays court. It was bounded east by Quaaty or Wesco bank ; west by Rays court and Pine street, and southerly by a line from Pine to Union street, drawn east and west along the south end of Fair street.

The original layout provided for Fair street and a way along the edge of the bank, but two years later this road was changed to the location of an old way and called Orange street. Main and Pine streets were probably in use. Fair street was nearly in the middle of the division.

The shares extended from Fair street east and west and were not like the Wesco acre yard-stick lots, but averaged 116 feet in width north and south.

As soon as this division was made there were many

deeds relating to this section and it must have been rapidly settled. But no houses are mentioned except Solomon Gardner's, before 1717, and this must have been near the location of the house of Mrs. Mary Hussey, back of the Masonic Building.

Although the bounds of this division have long ago disappeared, yet the angle in Fair street furnishes a guide for plotting the entire tract. By this it is evident that Plumb lane was at the angle and in share 7, while Martin's lane extended along the north edge of share 6.

The Fish Lot division did not touch Main street, as will appear by reference to the plans, except at Ray's court.

The accompanying schedule will show the owners and shares in these two and the Monomoy divisions.

OWNERS OF SHIMMO, FISH LOTS, WEST AND SOUTH MONOMOY.	Shimmo.	Fish Lots.	West Monomoy.	South Monomoy.
	Stephen Coffin and son Stephen . . . . .	2	1	1
Sarah Gardner . . . . .	27	2	2	25
Edward Coffin and Bethia Gardner . . . . .	4	3	3	24
James Coffin . . . . .	19	4	5	22
Jethro Coffin and Stephen Coffin, Jr. . . . .	18	5	4	23
Nathaniel Starbuck and Colemans . . . . .	5	6	6	3
Peter and Samuel Coffin . . . . .	14	7	7	4
James, Ebenezer Gardner and brethren . . . . .	9	8	8	5
Nathaniel Barnard . . . . .	13	9	9	6
Jethro Starbuck and George Gardner . . . . .	15	10	10	7
John Swain and Samuel Gardner . . . . .	1	11	11	21
Nathaniel Starbuck . . . . .	26	12	12	20
Ebenezer and Peter Coffin and William Worth . . . . .	22	13	13	19
Eleazer Folger and brethren . . . . .	6	14	14	15
William Vaughn . . . . .	12	15	15	14
Joseph and Benjamin Swain and Robert Long . . . . .	20	16	16	9
James Coffin, Jr. . . . .	25	17	17	10
The Bunkers $\frac{3}{4}$ , Proprietary $\frac{1}{4}$ . . . . .	10	18	18	1
Thomas Macy . . . . .	11	19	19	2
Ebenezer Gardner and Jemima Coffin . . . . .	8	20	20	11
James Coffin, Jr., Edmund Allen and Macies . . . . .	21	21	21	12
Nathaniel Coffin and William Worth . . . . .	24	22	22	13
William Worth, Richard Gardner and Stephen Coffin . . . . .	16	23	23	8
George Gardner . . . . .	23	24	24	16
Stephen Hussey . . . . .	17	25	25	18
Richard Pinkham and Nathaniel Barnard . . . . .	7	26	26	17
Richard Gardner . . . . .	3	27	27	27







A curious procedure took place in December 1722. The record is thus :

“Whereas the freeholders of Nantucket have for some time labored under inconveniences with respect to the irregularity of certain tracts of land called house lots and dividends, some being interlapped, many unintelligible and some by reason of mistakes, others that the former butts and bounds thereof are lost and many grievances thence ensue; it is therefore ordered to redress the same that every proprietor may lay down every particular tract and may have their just proportions according to their just right and interest, and Nathaniel Starbuck, Eleazer Folger, Thomas Macy, Batchelor Hussey and George Hussey, are appointed to survey and measure the contents of ye house lots and dividend lands.”

If in sixty years after the house lots had been laid out all this trouble was experienced with the descriptions, we may be excused for finding the same difficulties near two centuries later. So they began again, and every Proprietor verbally gave back the land which had been set off to him. It might be regarded as a very loose performance if attempted today, but no questions seem to have been raised at the time. It required a dozen pages to record the surrenders and subsequent layouts and they had all-day meetings for several consecutive days until all the the troublesome errors had been corrected. In every case the new layouts followed this formula :

“Voted and agreed that George Gardner shall have the tract of land on which his house stands, containing 21 acres according to the plat thereof as it is laid out, (errors excepted in course, distance or area.)”

Of these plans which numbered ninety, only two are in existence. So for purposes of investigation, the approximate locality only can be determined by subsequent conveyances, an exceedingly difficult undertaking, because



PLAN SHOWING  
ORIGINAL LAYOUTS ON THE HARBOR  
OF  
NANTUCKET MASS  
Scale of Feet

- A Embankment
- B Harbor
- C Harbor
- D Adams Green
- E City
- F Harbor
- G Harbor
- H Harbor
- I Harbor
- J Harbor
- K Harbor
- L Harbor
- M Harbor
- N Harbor
- O Harbor
- P Harbor
- Q Harbor
- R Harbor
- S Harbor
- T Harbor
- U Harbor
- V Harbor
- W Harbor
- X Harbor
- Y Harbor
- Z Harbor



exact surveying did not begin with this new start, but the same methods continued as before.

After the Fish Lots had been assigned there remained two intermediate sections to be allotted, one the triangular tract bounded by Liberty, Main and Gardner streets, and the other along the south side of Main street and next to the Fish Lots. On the lot once occupied by the Hicksite Friends Meeting House, now the residence of Wm. T. Swain, in 1722 was the blacksmith shop of Jethro Gardner. At the east end of this lot which is the west end of the John W. Barrett homestead, the Fish Lots were distant from Main street forty-one feet; at Fair street 66 feet; at Orange street 76 feet; and at a point 124 feet east of Orange, this division was 83 feet south of Main street. The strip between was assigned, the part east of Orange street to the heirs of William Worth; and the part west to Jethro Gardner's lot to the heirs of Eleazer Folger.

The other section was assigned as follows: beginning at the Pacific bank corner and proceeding west. The heirs of Joseph Gardner received a lot measuring 266 feet on Main and Liberty streets from the corner. Next lot was Edward Allen's, which was 110 feet on both streets; then Richard Gardner's lot had a frontage of 70 feet; and next west, Thomas Macy had 160 feet on each street and was practically the section between Winter street and Walnut lane.

Then the Clay Pits included Winter street and about 50 feet west.

At Winter street the distance between Main and Liberty was so great that west of this point the lots extended only half way to the other street. On Liberty west of Winter was the lot of James Gardner with frontage of 120 feet including the two Wilbur houses. The next 60 feet was assigned to Wm. Worth and George Gardner. Then 58 feet next west was laid out to Ebenezer Gardner. The remain-

ing space up to and including Gardner street was allotted to Eleazer Folger. On Main street west of Winter was one acre which was set off to Jabez Bunker.

In 1726 the Proprietors divided two more sections called West and South Monomoy. The latter is now largely meadow land and was probably such from the beginning. The Cathcart Farm at Monomoy was in this division. It comprised a strip along the harbor above the marsh nearly a mile east and west and extended south to the Podpiss Road.

Its east line was the east line of the Cathcart farm. No streets were included in the layout.

West Monomoy, next to Fish Lots, was the most thickly inhabited part of the town. It was bounded north by the Fish Lots, south by the line extending from the Creeks to Hummock Pond, approximately at the first mile stone. East by the Consue Meadows and the Creeks, and its west line Pleasant street. As the junction of Union and Orange streets is clearly defined on the plan the entire division can be laid down. Union, Orange, and Pleasant streets are delineated. As soon as this division was confirmed, its north section was rapidly settled, and it now contains houses that were erected soon after 1726, but none of an earlier date.

About the time that houses at Cappaum were moved to Wescoe, the whaling industry had become firmly established, and as Nantucket was sending out whaling vessels it naturally became a trading port. Oil was brought home and reshipped to the coast cities along the Atlantic, and in return came merchandise of all sorts. At once the shore along the west end of the harbor was valuable for warehouses. In 1716 the Straight wharft was built and land on each side of Main street east of Union was laid out in 1723 as warehouse lots. Their value may be inferred from the fact that they were only 16 by 40 feet. These

warehouse lots extended from Pearl to Main street and about the same distance south. They were immediately occupied by buildings for mercantile purposes.

In 1744 the beach east of Federal street was hilly and uneven and a creek extended into Pearl street. An order was passed by the Proprietors that the tract should be leveled and laid out. It was bounded by Main, Federal, Broad and Water streets, and was named Bocochoico.

It is not the purpose of this work to describe further divisions. Those outside of the town limits are delineated on the maps of Dr. Ever. Some of them included over 2000 acres. Those made before 1800, owing to imperfect surveys, cannot be accurately identified. Attention has been called to the fact that before 1800, when divisions were made, each owner had his portion of the same and still retained his interest in the common and undivided lands outside. About 1815, after a bitter lawsuit, a new method was permitted by the Supreme Court. Under that decision, if a man owned 100 sheep commons he could compel the Proprietors to set off to him his entire interest in one place, and by that process he ceased to have any more interest in the remaining common land, and his sheep commons were cancelled. It was called "paying" 100 sheep commons for the land. As a result of this lawsuit Richard Mitchell and ten associates had set off to them Plainfield, the 2100 acres between Siasconset and Sesachacha Pond and extending from the ocean west between one and two miles. These persons owned 2268 sheep commons which were cancelled on the Proprietors books and they had no longer any interest in the common and undivided lands. In this way Coatue, Surfside, and a great number of smaller parcels were set off to individuals, and the sheep commons have become reduced from 19,440 to less than 1000. The commons and undivided land now controlled and managed by the Proprietary is very



difficult to find. If one were to mark on a sheet of paper as many half dollars as possible and then cut out the circles, what would remain would represent the remaining common land. An attempt has been made to exercise some control over the Great Ponds on the ground that this control vested in the Proprietary before Nantucket became a part of Massachusetts and that therefore the Massachusetts law concerning the Great Ponds and the rights of the public therein, does not apply to Nantucket. Recently Myacomet Pond was set off to an individual to develop as a private fishery. The Supreme Court would probably hold that the Pond was public and could not become private except by an act of the Legislature.

Much complaint is heard about the obscure titles on Nantucket. The Legislature seemed to recognize this when the town was authorized to condemn for park purposes as much of Muskeget as was "not held by a clear title." If this phrase means anything it is that the owners of the land cannot be ascertained. If a map of Nantucket were made and all fenced areas delineated it would be discovered that the inclosed locations comprise a very small proportion of the island. Thousands of acres were never inclosed and probably never will be. They have practically been abandoned, and as no bounds of the layouts have been preserved it is impossible to ascertain who owns any particular tract. The difficulty with the titles, and it is serious, consists solely in the fact that the land was not worth inclosing and improving. Such a situation was admirably adapted to sheep raising. As long as there were thousands of sheep to roam over the moors of Nantucket, it was more profitable that the land should remain in this condition of uncertainty. But when sheep raising closed and it was proposed to improve the land, then came perplexity in securing a title. Then ignorant and unskilful persons have always been ready to advise in difficult cases

of conveyancing and have added much confusion to the complicated condition. Shimmo has been mentioned as an illustration. Here the bounds of the division being a pond, unnamed and unidentified, have been lost beyond recovery. In 1717 it was owned by sixty persons. Because the land was without value, no person ever took the trouble to gather together the interests in one name. Then the descendants of these owners emigrated to every section of the world and the owners are now myriad and unascertainable. These divisions comprise nine-tenths of the island. The Proprietors designated the land in divisions as "dividend land" to distinguish it from the common and undivided lands.

## CHAPTER X.

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### *Nantucket Land Speculations.*

It has been said that the shore line of Nantucket is 87 miles in length, and along the entire line is a sand beach. The line of the Harbor alone is 21 miles long. Of the entire shore very few sections have not been the locus of some land speculation. Whenever Nantucket has had a good season and men have been exploring the island for seaside lots, then some keen real estate exploiter has sought to develop some part of the island and place it on a possible market. These projects have been confined to the space within a half mile limit of the shore. Tucker-nuck and Muskeget, not being within regular communication with Nantucket, have not been the object of such moves.

The residential part of Nantucket has been subject to periodical fluctuations. Its high water mark in population was reached not far from 1830. Speculation in land was then unknown. But about that time many persons erected the houses at Siasconset that for years were its pride. They extended along the main street. The houses nearer the bank were of earlier construction and were mostly occupied by men who were engaged in cod fishing.

But for many years later there were no houses south of the Gully or north of the Plainfield line, which is the south line of Flagg's land. Siasconset in 1870 was about what it had been for half a century before.

The movements in relation to real estate which are defined as speculative did not commence until summer visi-

tors began to visit the island. Previous to 1870 seaside resorts in New England were not common. About this time wealthy families in the middle and southern parts of the country started the custom of spending the summer months on the New England shore. At Nantucket there were two hotels and some boarding houses, one of which was at Siasconset. Three sail boats moored at the steamboat wharf were ready to pilot a coaster or accommodate a fishing party. In 1872 a new hotel was built and two new sail boats were added. Then commenced the modern "summer visitor" business with all its attending consequences and among them many land ventures.

This method of creating a demand and supply for lots, seemed to consist in procuring a section of land on the shores extensive enough for the purpose and then having it surveyed and a plan made showing division into house lots and embellished in many ways known only to the city real estate broker. Then skilful advertising was resorted to for the purpose of inducing persons to purchase the lots. None of these moves at Nantucket passed beyond the preliminary stages of development. No houses, pavilions, streets or landings were built except in one case, a railroad and a hotel. The principal of these exploits will be described. The first was started in 1873 and called the Nantucket Bluffs at north shore. At the same time Dr. F. A. Ellis and Charles H. Robinson bought the tract at Siasconset, south of the Gully. These transactions were successful, and although not extensive in area, were popular, and the land was quickly sold and improved by buildings. One success leads others to the same undertaking. Two dismal failures followed: S. B. Tourtelotte of Worcester, purchased a large tract at Maddaket, had it surveyed and platted into 2000 lots and placed on the market. Unusually large and beautiful maps were circulated showing drives, parks, and other attractions at

locations known to the natives as swamps. Few lots were sold ; no houses built and for many years this section has been dormant.

The movements of the Surfside Land Company were the most extensive ever enacted on Nantucket, starting with a section of land a mile wide and three miles long, between Weeamdu Pond and Tom Nevers Head, it performed every move characteristic of a land scheme. Surveys were made and many plans drawn by civil engineers of note and the land was bonded for \$200,000. In 1881 only a few lots had been sold and the affair was boomed further by a hotel and a railroad. The Coffin reunion was by a coincidence a contemporary event and the first locomotive was named Dionis. The hotel was open for a few seasons, but has now dropped to the ground. The railroad no longer runs to Surfside. Money has been expended by the thousands. A few houses were once to be seen, and today the seagull flying across the entire expanse can discover no other trace of man than the ruins of a few buildings. The Surfside land scheme is as dead as Madaket.

In 1874 Lete and Wooding of New Haven, Connecticut, bought a tract at Quaise from which a view of the harbor was had, although some distance from the shore. It was divided into 500 lots, sold for taxes and now held by Allen Coffin. No buildings were ever erected.

W. & J. A. Veazie of Boston in 1875, purchased some land at South Shore between Hummock and Long Ponds, called it "Nauticon" and Smooth Hummocks, divided it into 1700 lots, sold a few, but no improvements were ever made.

The success of Capt. Charles Moores and others at the Cliff, led others to venture further west. In 1876 Henry Coffin and others opened Shurburn Bluffs in which the O'Connor House stands. These 28 lots have been im-

proved. Still further west, near the Hinckley farm, was a tract of 240 lots called Wannacomet Bluffs, which have neither been sold nor improved.

Land was quiet at Nantucket for several years until in 1880 the Island had a prosperous season, and several small tracts were developed, notably among them were Brant Point owned by E. H. Alley, Charles C. Moores, Henry Coleman, and on the hill Clifton Springs by Alfred Swain and Charles H. Robinson. Being near the town these sections were built upon at once.

Then followed each year speculations in small tracts :

- 1882. Wauwinnet.
- 1883. Flagg's lots, Siasconset.
- 1883. Coatue Land Co., near Wauwinnet, now on an island.
- 1884. Thomas Gray and Round, south of Siasconset.
- 1885. Sankaty Heights.
- 1886. Swift lot, Brant Point.
- 1886. Sassachacha.
- 1886. Lincoln Heights at Cliff.
- 1887. Aurora Heights, Siasconset.
- 1888. Dionis City, west of Capaum Pond.
- 1889. Monomoy Heights.
- 1895. Low Beach, south of Siasconset.

1901. Miacomet Park. This shows the latest land scheme development. A New Bedford man, desiring to sell tea, arranged a new plan. He purchased 80 acres on east side of Miacamet Pond, had it surveyed and divided into 2300 lots and then advertised to give away a lot with every pound of tea, providing the purchaser would pay \$2.00 for the deed. Forty deeds have been recorded at Nantucket.

In general, the land ventures near the town have been successful, and also those between Wauwinnet and Low Beach. Those along the south side of the harbor on Coatue, Surfside, Hummock Pond and Madaket have been failures.

# Nantucket Historical Association

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## Nantucket Lands and Land Owners

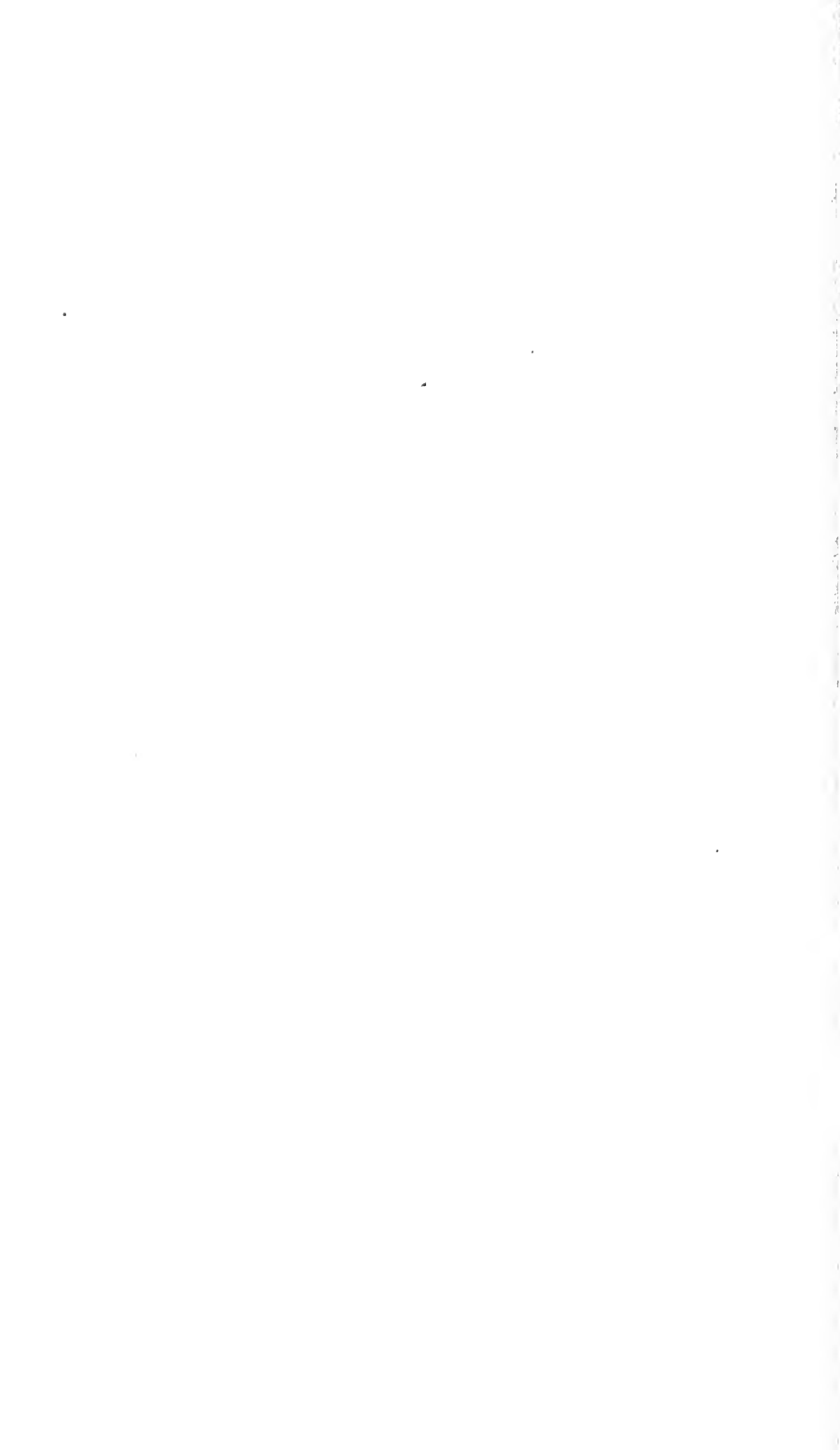
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HENRY BARNARD WORTH

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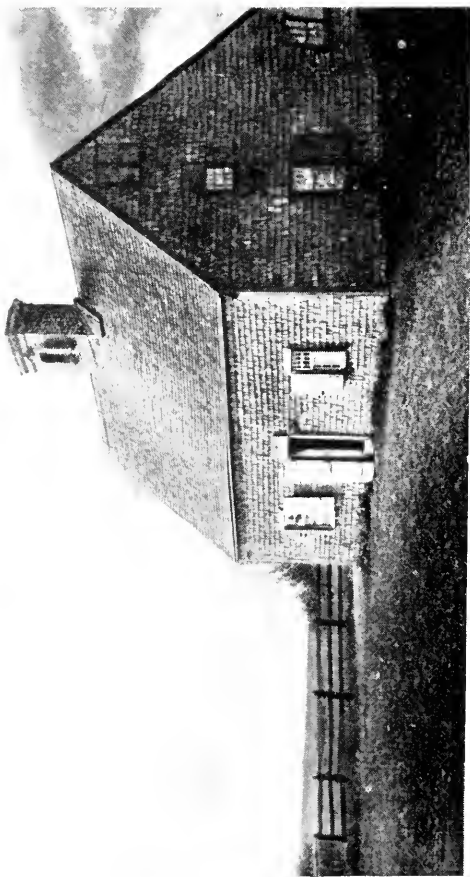
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Jethro Coffin House — 1686.

## CHAPTER XI.

### *Ancient Buildings of Nantucket.*

In June 1661 the settlers of Nantucket left Massachusetts Bay for their new Island Home. Enough had arrived for the Proprietors held their first meeting July 15. Among their numbers was a house carpenter from Newbury named John Bishop who remained at Nantucket until 1677 when he joined the company to settle Woodbridge, New Jersey. Some provision had doubtless been made to shelter the inhabitants previous to their arrival, but according to experience elsewhere the first structures must have been of rude formation without finish or strength. A lay-out of land at Maddaket in 1670 was described as being "near the old cellar of Edward Starbuck."

This meant that during his sojourn at Nantucket during the winter of 1660, Starbuck must have had a habitation at the west end of the Island which ten years later was only a cellar. This was the first house built on the Island for use of the English.

It is a principle of quite universal application that permanent dwellings are not erected within twenty years after the settlers reach a new locality. After the business and industries of a place have been developed and established the residents give their attention to the

construction of permanent and commodious houses. According to this rule, there would be a strong presumption against any house built at Nantucket before 1680 being in existence after 1700. Tristram Coffin in 1676 had two houses on his homestead, an old house under the hill and a new house on the hill. The first had become "old" in 16 years so that he required another. It may be suggested that Nathaniel and Mary Starbuck in 1667 had a dwelling, called the Parliament House which was located on the hill north-west of the Hummock Pond and that about 1820 it was moved to town and rebuilt by John Folger on the north east corner of Pine and School streets and owned in recent years by James Austin. There is no doubt that in 1665 to 1667 the Starbuck house was designated the Parliament House, probably because it had a room large enough to accommodate the meeting of the inhabitants for religious or political purposes. Without a question John Folger was informed that this identical house was the structure which he moved. But the evidence of his informants must have been unsound. In the first place it is unlikely that within five years after the settlement a young couple would have a house of such size and durability. In 1722 when the old lay-outs were surveyed and established that of the Homestead of Nathaniel Starbuck's heirs was described "by ye old house." This suggests a new house in another location. The probability is that the house which Folger moved was a later house occupied by the Starbuck family and not that originally known as the Parliament House.

The records furnish very little information as to the location of the first houses. It is possible to identify with approximate accuracy the twenty acre house lots of

the first residents, but where in those tracts the dwellings stood is beyond even conjecture. All signs of construction have been obliterated, and unless the presence of a spring suggests a possible house in the vicinity, there is no clue to any location. The spring on the farm northwest of Hummock Pond, known as Cambridge, locates almost exactly the spot occupied by the Parliament House. North of this near the south end of Marcy's Pond stood the house of James Coffin. In 1881 the descendants of Tristram Coffin placed a marble or granite post at the south-west end of Capaum Pond to mark the spot which tradition designated as the location of Tristram's first dwelling. But the records give no indication except that it was "under the hill."

Previous to the days of easy transportation mechanics did not travel from one place to another. A builder worked in the place where he lived. A new community was compelled to secure among its inhabitants men of all trades. John Bishop was the first carpenter at Nantucket. One of the accomplishments of Peter Folger was that of a joiner. As Bishop and the associates came from the Merrimac Valley, the house construction at Nantucket would follow the lines in Massachusetts Bay with the modification due to local materials and the condition of the people. In the early days of the settlement the inhabitants were not poor. Even if not fertile, they had land in abundance, and the sea was full of fish. Then their expenses were insignificant. There was no church nor minister to maintain, and no public institutions to support by taxation. In 1687 the annual tax paid to New York was only three pounds, and in 1671 four barrels of fish. As a result the Islanders were able to provide for

themselves comfortable homes even though some of the materials were brought from the Bay.

In Dartmouth, Rochester and Rhode Island stones were used for chimneys before 1700, but at Nantucket, the material was brick so far as information extends. There were extensive clay beds on the Island that were opened as early as 1720, but how soon bricks were made cannot be determined from any record. It has been a debated question whether the Island produced wood suitable for building. In 1670, Nathaniel Barnard was importing pine boards from the Merrimac, and in 1732 Timothy White was buying wood from Freetown and Rochester. The opinion is ventured that there may have been trees large enough to furnish lumber for the first dwellings but that all houses built after 1680 required lumber from the main land.

Two events exerted an important effect on the local buildings. One was the removal of the residences from Wannacomet to Wescoe in 1720, and the other was the great fire of 1846. When it became necessary to rely upon the Great Harbor instead of Capaum which had become a pond, two developments took place. New houses were built at Wescoe, and many of the old structures were removed to that section. Some houses had already been built in the new location as early as 1680, but the principal number were erected after 1720. By that time the land lying about the west end of the Harbor had been laid out into house lots. Benjamin Barnard had established a school near the corner of Main street and Rays Court; and that year the Friends Meeting House was moved from the locality near Hummock Pond to the corner of Main and Saratoga street, consequently it is not

safe to infer that any house in the present town was built before 1717, unless supported by convincing proof. Except in the case of the Horseshoe House and the Hamlin Barn, there is no building in the town limits of earlier construction than the date of the removal.

The fire of 1846 covered practically the regions laid out as Bocochoico and Wescoe Acre lots east of Centre street. Its progress was checked by four brick houses. That on the south-west corner of Main and Orange streets owned by Philip H. Folger; the Pacific Bank; the residence of Jared Coffin now called the Ocean House; and the house of Aaron Mitchell on North Water street where was the residence of the late George K. Long. Between Centre street and the Harbor and Main and Broad streets every building was destroyed. Some idea of the character of the buildings can be gained from the pictures in the Atheneum Library and Historical Room, representing Main street before the fire. The part of this devastated region between Centre and Federal streets was laid-out in 1678 and about that time in the section along Chestnut street houses were built by Stephen Hussey. A very ancient dwelling was destroyed at the corner of Federal street which may have been built at this period. From these different causes it is evident that the buildings on the Island with few exceptions were constructed subsequent to 1717.

In 1902 lightning demolished an ancient dwelling in Palpis in the field opposite the School House. The last occupant was Mrs. Love Smith, a descendant of John Swain.

An examination of the ruin and of the photographs that were taken in 1881 indicate these facts: It was built at

three periods, the center section being the oldest. The original house was a leanto, one story; fronted south, with a brick chimney at the west end. The whole south side was included in a single room. Under the north roof were one or two rooms without a chimney. Over the large south room was a garret under the roof. The south room was 16 or 17 feet square. The house rested on the ground without cellar or wall. The addition on the east side was also a leanto but smaller than the centre. That on the west end was built not far from 1800. The chimney provided a large fire-place with oven for the south room. Two sorts of brick were used, some of modern and others of early colonial size. The latter measured  $10 \times 4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, were of irregular shape and imperfect finish. They present all shades of color, from dark blue to light red. Clinging to these large bricks was mortar made from lime that was obtained from sea-shells. In the older part of the house between the walls was clay filling. The summer in the south room extended north and south, parallel to the chimney. It was about twelve inches square, mortised into the plates and also supported by side posts; edges were chamfered. The corner posts had bracketed tops. The girt and summer were pine and the posts, both oak and pine. The outside measure of the old post was about 19 feet east and west, and 25 feet north and south. The land on which this house stands belonged previous to 1700 to John Swain and remained in the Swain family until the present time. Various dates have been assigned as the age of this house from 1676 to 1714. In the latter year John Swain sold to his daughter Elizabeth Saville the land on which Joshua Saville's house standeth, and so one genealogist inferred



that the house was built in 1704, when Joshua and Elizabeth were married. But these differing assumptions must yield to the facts shown by the construction and to the records.

During the first twenty years after the Island was settled Richard and John Swain lived on the west side of Hummock Pond at the south head. As land was purchased from the Indians the English extended their possessions from Wescoc eastward along the harbor. Stephen Hussey secured the land near the present Poor House, and to the east. In 1680 John Swain purchased land at Podkis from the Indians and his title was confirmed in 1684 and 1686, and he surrendered to the Proprietors his lands on the Plains near Hummock Pond. So this house could not have been built before 1684. The style of construction already described belongs to a period previous to 1700, which will be apparent from the description of the Horse-shoe House and the Hamlin Barn which follow. The safe judgment would be that the Swain house was built between 1684 and 1694, with a preference for the first part of that decade.

The Coffin Horseshoe House on Sunset Hill is standing and in the summer open to inspection. The date of its construction has been fixed at 1686 but upon what authority beside the assertion of Benjamin Franklin Folger in 1858 cannot be understood. In 1708 Jethro and Mary Coffin conveyed land and house to Nathaniel Paddock, but no will or deed appears to show how either became owner of the same, nor is there any record of the marriage of these grantors. It is stated in the genealogies that their first child was born in 1687 and from this possibly it is inferred that the marriage took place in 1686 and

hence that the house was built at that date. Such is the tradition in the family.

The house is a story and half high; faces south; brick chimney in center; front door in middle of south side with a large room on each side. The north roof covers the usual small apartments in a leanto. On the second floor were two rooms over those down stairs. Outside, the house measures 39 feet east and west and 30 north and south, and rests on the ground without cellar or wall.

There is a jog in the leanto where a fire is reputed to have done some damage years ago. Much of the brick work in the chimney is of modern repair, but large sized bricks and shell lime appear as in the Swain House. Between the walls the space was filled with clay. On the south face of the chimney above the roof is a design which is in shape the letter U inverted thus  $\cap$ . No explanation has ever been suggested for this character, but it has caused the house to be called the "Horseshoe."

So much repair has been made to keep the structure standing that much of the original frame has disappeared. The corner posts and plates are modern and so is the roof. A single side post in the west chamber indicates that the first uprights were of oak with tops bracketed. Summers in first story above and these extend from chimney to end girt, and are pine, and ten inches square. Girts are eleven inches square and chimney jamb fourteen. Outside boards vertical and nailed to sills and girts; no studding; braces from corner posts to girts. The ships knees now in sight, holding the girts together were adopted when the corner posts had become inferior. The chimney provides a semi-circular fire-place for each south room but none for rooms in leanto. In the second story each room



John Swain House—Polpis—North Side.



John Swain House—Polpis—South Side.



has a fire-place. This house continued in the Paddock family until 1840 when George Paddock sold it to George Turner, whose heirs in 1881 conveyed it to Tristram Coffin of Middletown, Connecticut.

The features in which the Coffin and Swain houses resemble each other lead to the conclusion that they belong to the same period; that the former is an example of the larger type, while the Polpis house is an illustration of the smaller structure of the same date.

A part of the Hamlin Barn at the Cliff was once a house of the leanto style, and so was the carriage house in the rear of the residence of John C. Gardner at the Head of Main street. Unfortunately the chimney of each has been taken down many years, and so one essential mark of the age of the house has been destroyed. But there is in both structures sufficient to deserve a careful description.

The present Hamlin house was built about 1840, and at that time the old house was transformed into a barn; the chimney was removed and then or since the north leanto and west half were taken down. The south-east portion of the present house, comprising that part east of the door is the remnant of the old house. Some of the cross beams have been taken out to alter the two rooms into a mow for hay. Apparently the house was a double leanto, chimney in middle, facing south. All that remains of the original framing are the upright posts. These are somewhat heavy and bracketed at top, while they are hewn according to a plan not common, on the Island being rounded instead of straight face, they might be located in the period between 1715 and 1730 except for two facts. It is unquestionable that clay was filled in between the

walls the same as appears in the Coffin and Swain houses. Then there is a coarse granite door-stone, on the upper surface of which are roughly cut G. E. 1696. The date is very plain and so is the "E." There might be a question about the other letter. Then the doubt might be raised whether this stone was not carried there from some other place. Genealogies of Nantucket state that in 1695 George Gardner married Eunice Starbuck. Possibly the door-step is an attempt to chronicle the event. The land was then owned by Capt. John Gardner; the father of George and his own house was only about 150 yards to the west. It has been assumed that this house was built for George in 1696, and certainly it is not outside the range of probability. George Gardner who died 1750, left his property to his son Grafton, who died 1789, leaving a son Silas.

1800, Silas Gardner sold his house and 12 acres of land to Thomas Brock, and in 1842 Elizabeth Fitzgerald and others, descendants of Brock, conveyed to Thomas C. Hamblin in whose family it is still owned. Unless further information is discovered pointing to a different result, this evidence is sufficient to indicate that this house was built by Capt. John Gardner for his son George, who later became a prominent man at Nantucket.

The structure at the head of Main street is a difficult problem, although more information concerning it has been preserved. In 1760 in the division of land of Joseph Gardner the land whereon this house stands was allotted to Caleb Gardner and is described as the lot whereon his house stands. He was married about 1744 and the property in 1840 was owned by Asa Coffin who sold it to the late George C. Gardner. The building was occupied as a

dwelling as late as 1880. The only question is whether it was built for Caleb Gardner about the date of his marriage or was erected earlier by his father Joseph. The land was part of the extension tract known as the "Crooked Record" so named not on account of any complication in the title but because of its irregular slope. Some of it lay north and some east and west of the Lily Pond, and most of it north of Main street and west of Gardner. Joseph Gardner by inheritance came into possession of the tract on which this house and that further east known as the Lovell house stands. The records give no information whether this house was occupied by Joseph Gardner before the date when his son Caleb was married. The house as it originally stood was a leanto faced the south, was one room wide with the chimney at the east end. On the front it was two stories high and north roof sloped down to one story. It later had an addition on east and west ends enough to provide some small rooms. The original chimney at its base was about nine feet square was taken down many years ago. The bricks were laid in clay, up to the roof where the stock was bound together by clam shell mortar. As the bricks were removed from the lot there is no information to be gained from this source. The space between the walls was filled with clay. The framing is unique and unlike that found elsewhere on the Island. Usually in two story houses the corner posts have bracketed tops in the upper rooms, but not on first floor. Here however the usual heavy brackets are in upper room, but down stairs is a handsome rounded bracket with a shoulder to support the girts and summer. The latter beam runs north and south. The girts and summer are very heavy, nearly a foot square and edges

chamfered. All timber are smoothly finished. This framing is the most elaborate among the early houses on the Island. The addition at the west end has corner posts of the same style and finish, showing that it must have been constructed in the early years of the 18th Century. Cedar shingles on the original west end were worn by the elements to a very thin measure. The old door-stone of red sandstone has been worn deeply by the trampling feet of two centuries. In 1906 timbers are sound and strong as ever.

The problem of the age of this house is full of difficulties. The condition of door-stone and shingles already noted denote great age, but leave the date undetermined. The clay filling in the walls and shell mortar in the chimney might indicate an origin before 1700. Whether clay used as mortar in chimneys is indicative of any particular date is yet unsettled. It might be urged in favor of a late date that the frame could not be so firm in a house, two centuries old; that the two stories were higher than is usual in 1700 houses; that the chimney being square instead of oblong, and having a fire-place on the north side for one of the leanto rooms, indicated a 1720 style, and not 1700; and that the ornamented double bracketed corner posts were later than those in the Horse-shoe house which was so fashioned only at the tops. In this balance of reasons the framing of the west addition may be taken to decide the question. Such corner posts are not known in Nantucket after 1745. Probably therefore this addition was built when Caleb Gardner was married, and later he received the whole house. This result leads to the conclusion that Joseph Gardner built the house. He was married about 1700 or shortly before.



These small additions like that on the west end were generally built to furnish another bed-room for a son when he married. It is safe to conclude that the original house was in existence in 1725, and the question is whether it was erected any earlier, or more exactly when between 1700 and 1725 was the house built. On the whole the conclusion seems safest to assume that it was built during the decade following 1715, by Joseph Gardner, and that when he took up his residence in another part of the town this house was occupied by Caleb his son, so that it came to be known as belonging to the latter.

The foregoing are all the houses, any part of which were standing in 1905, and which anti-dated the removal of the population from Wannacomet to Wescoe. This event took place a few years before and after 1720. It will be well to consider the prevailing type of house at this period, taking as an illustration the Major Josiah Coffin house at the corner of North street and North Liberty. It was built in 1724, faces south, and is of the leanto style, the south side full two stories in height, and the north roof sloping down to one story. The central chimney has been recently repaired, but is still standing in its original form. It is a pilastered structure, and suits the elegance of the house. The interior betokens good taste and wealth. On each side of the central front door is a large room, each of which has a fire-place. In the rear in the leanto portion is a long kitchen across the north side of the chimney, and here is also a large fire-place. The frame of the house is plain but massive. The heavy summers and girders show in every room, and the corner posts in the second story present heavy bracketed tops. No shell mortar. No large bricks appear in the chimney,

and there is no clay filling between the walls. The arrangement of having a large north room for kitchen and dining room is an advance beyond the Horse-shoe house. In the latter one of the south rooms was kitchen and dining room, and no room in the leanto had access to the center chimney. A singular feature is the fact that no two windows are of the same size. Altogether the house is the finest specimen of ancient dwelling now standing on the Island. It has to a high degree that subtle quality, called "atmosphere," that attracts and satisfies the eye of all. It passed to the son of Major Coffin whose grand-daughter married a man named Benjamin Gardner, known as Squire Ben Gardner and his grand-daughter Mrs. Eunice Coffin Brooks is the owner in 1906.

Such was the style of house which the Nantucketers adopted and to which they tenaciously clung as a model for construction for over half a century and scores of these houses are still standing. In other towns of Massachusetts the gambrel roof at this date became more or less popular, but at Nantucket their advent took place some thirty years later and even then was infrequent. The Major Coffin type of leanto held sway, until modern styles demanded adoption.

The attachment felt by Nantucket people for this type finds an expression in their reluctance to discard the ancient dwellings. Many of them remain as they have stood for over a century. Others have undergone some alteration whereby the low rear roof was raised to two full stories and most of the old structure retained. It is a constant surprise to an observer to notice the large number of strong durable houses still standing, in which the

frame work clearly indicates an origin before the Revolutionary War. This deep seated veneration is illustrated by the event that took place as late as 1790 when the house on the north-west corner of Mill and Risdale streets was being built by Job Macy. His father Richard discovered that the plan was to erect a house two stories in front and rear without a leanto under the long sloping north roof. He expostulated with Job for the innovation and vowed that if the house was built in the new style as proposed he would never enter it and the tradition is that he never did.

Most of the leanto houses were originally built a single room in width with the chimney at the end. The Seth Coffin house opposite the South Schoolhouse or Town Hall is a good illustration. Then when the oldest son married, an addition was made to the chimney end of the house, and also another flue to the chimney, and a sort of double house resulted with chimney in center. An excellent illustration is the Tobey on the north-east corner of Main and Gardner streets, the west end being at least a generation later than the east part. Another kind of addition made for the accommodation of the newly married couple was a one-story structure like that on the west side of the house on the south-east corner of Main and Pine streets, which provided two extra small rooms. There are two houses on North Liberty street near the Lily Pond owned by John Williams and John Francis that were built within seventy years. These have the long sloping back roof, but lack the large chimney that was one of the distinguishing marks of the early house.

The gambrel roofed house never attracted the attention of the Nantucket people. The few that are still standing were erected after 1750.

After the Revolution when prosperity dawned on the Island, the common type of house was the square two-story structure, with large center chimney, numerous examples of which are to be seen on Pearl street, west of Center. The same regard for ancient houses has also led people to retain the large center chimney. While in many towns desire for increased room or for the appearance of a small chimney has led house owners to replace the old structure with one greatly inferior in size, at Nantucket the disposition has prevailed to keep without change this distinguishing mark of the 18th Century construction.

The investigation of the public buildings of Nantucket presents many difficult problems. Occasional and indirect references are the only evidence of their existence. The Meeting House, Town House and Jail must have existed before 1716 but where they stood cannot be determined with any accuracy. The reason seems to be that these buildings were placed on land not purchased or set off for the purpose, but upon some kind of verbal permission, so that when the building was changed to another location no transfer of land followed. The land records are silent as to the situation of these structures. Probably before 1700, religious meetings, courts and town assemblies were all held in private houses. In 1686 the magistrates ordered the town to build a jail and presumably the order was obeyed, but no further mention can be found. In 1707 the town voted to repair the town house, but there is no evidence that one had been built or where it stood. In 1708 John Macy was employed by the town to build a prison as soon as he could, but where he placed it is a mystery. The society of Friends in 1709 decided



Major Josiah Coffin House.



Elihu Coleman House.



to "go forward and build as fast as we can", but no statement is made on whose land the Meeting House was placed. In 1716 the town voted that notice of its meetings should be given by posting the same on the door of the Meeting House and Town House and in 1725 another order was adopted that the notice should be posted on the door of both Meeting Houses. Taken in connection with the foregoing facts it seems evident that in 1716 there was a Town House and a Friends Meeting House and that before 1725 the Presbyterians had built theirs. But the exasperating feature is that not a vestige of evidence appears about the location of either.

In 1716 the town voted to "build a town house 34 feet long and 24 wide, on the hill between William Stratton's and George Bunker's, near William Stratton's." Then for the first time appears a description definite enough to be identified. West of No. Bottom Pond is a winding pass-way connecting Duke and West Chester streets, and in the early records known as Crooked or Long Lane. At the south-east corner of its junction with West Chester street, stood William Stratton's house. George Bunker's place was about an eighth of a mile further east on the south side of West Chester street. Hence the Town House site was on the south side of West Chester street, nearly north of No. Bottom Pond which in early days was called George Bunker's Pond. It should be noted that no mention in the description is made of Meeting House or Jail. These must have been located elsewhere, although the late Wm. C. Folger asserted that the three institutions were on adjoining lots. In 1773 a movement started to change the location of the Town House nearer the harbor. Finally in 1783 a vote was passed to move it for \$72 to the lot to

be donated by Zaccheus Macy, or if he declined then to the lot owned by the town, south of John Cartwright's, which was between Pine and Pleasant and Summer and High. John Cartwright's land being at south-east corner of Main and Pleasant streets. The Macy lot was at the junction of Main and Milk streets. Evidently Zaccheus Macy gave the lot, for the town house stood at this fork of the street for the next 60 or 70 years.

The first attempt to state the location of the Jail appears in the town vote in 1748 to sell "the old prison at Wescoe to Wm. Swain." In 1768 there was a vote to repair the old prison and build a new one near it. In 1799 an old jail stood on High street near Pine, which must have been the site of the same institution in 1768. The town built a work house 30 feet long and 16 wide, on the same lot in 1770. Later the work house and new poor house were on the lot now occupied by the jail.

The facts about the first Meeting House have been lost probably beyond recovery. According to tradition the Quakers in 1709 built south-east of Maxey's Pond where they had a burial ground. But in 1730 they had moved to the corner of Saratoga street at head of Main street, and all vestige of the original location has been lost.

Concerning the Presbyterian Meeting House, there is scarcely enough evidence on which to base a conjecture. It is known that the old vestry in 1765 was moved to the spot now occupied by the Congregational Church. In May of that year the town granted permission to store in the town house the "inside work of the North Shore Meeting House till it should be built during the coming summer." The frame work of this structure indicates an origin some years before the date of removal. In the



diary of Judge Benjamin Lynde he describes a visit to Nantucket in June, 1732, in which is this item: "Lord's Day, June 11, Mr. White preached very well at the new built Presbyterian Meeting House."

This must indicate that the old Vestry is meant and that 1730 is about the date of its erection. It is also clear that the Presbyterians had an earlier Meeting House that was standing in 1725, concerning which no information is known to exist. In 1734 the Proprietary laid-out to John Macy a small lot of land westward and near the Meeting House. In the description is a slight indication that the location was on the north side of West Chester street and in the region north of No. Bottom Pond. The only hope of gaining any information about the first Meeting Houses is the possibility that some mention may be found in the published diary of a visitor to Nantucket during the early years of the 18th century. The tradition that the North Vestry was built in 1711 must be abandoned.

#### WM. ROTCH MARKET.

At the foot of Main street stands a narrow brick building, erected by Wm. Rotch. In November 1774 the Proprietors appointed a Committee "to agree with Wm. Rotch about building a Market House."

They reported as follows:

At a Legal Proprietors Meeting held at the Town House in Sherbourn the 3rd day of the 12th mo. 1774.

We the Subscribers being appointed and chosen by the Proprietors of the Island of Nantucket to be a Committee to Treat and agree with Willim. Rotch in respect to his Erecting and finishing a Building for the Use of the Town near & adjoining to the strait wharf in Compensa-

tion for a Piece of Common Land to be granted to him near said Wharf, do make our Reports as follows, viz.: We do hereby for ourselves and for and in behalf of the Proprietors of the Island of Nantucket aforesaid Give & Grant unto Willm. Rotch & to his heirs and Assigns forever a Piece of Common Land in the Still Dock in the Harbour of Nantucket aforesaid bounded on the South by the Water Lots belonging to the Owners of the Strait Wharf; & on the West by the North East Corner of the Beach share No. 2 & by the High Way below the Beach Shares; and on the North by the High Way that goes down the middle of the still Dock; and on the East by the shore laid out in the still Dock No. 1 being Thirty feet in Wedth and in Length on the South side about Ninety five feet from the water Lot Share No. 1 to the Beach Share No. 2 & on the North side from the aforesaid Water Lot No. 1 to the Highway about Eighty feet; of which Piece of Common the said William Rotch is to leave a Piece at the North East Corner of Nine feet in Breadth & twenty feet in Length for the Use of the Public not to be Improved or built upon higher than a cellar In Consideration whereof the said Wm. Rotch at his Own Proper Cost & Charge shall build Erect & finish a Suitable House for the Use of the Publick to stand on the West side of Henry Smiths House adjoining to the Strait Wharf; said House to be Eighteen feet Wide and forty feet in Length; and the whole of the Lower Room and the North half of the Chamber in said house to be and Remain for Ever hereafter for the Use of the Town and all the rest of Remaining Part of said House to be and Remain to him the said Wm. Rotch and to his Heirs & Assigns for Ever without any other or further Compensation to be paid to him the said Wm. Rotch for building said House or for the Land it Stands upon than what is above Expressed. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands the 2nd, 12th mo. Anno Domini 1774.

The above Piece of Common Granted to Wm. Rotch is

the same Piece that is donated and Marked No. 10 in the Plat of the Water Lots lately laid out in the Still Dock as by Record may appear.

A Piece Granted to William Rotch for Building the Market & the Land it Stands on.

FREDERICK FOLGER  
 BARZILLAI FOLGER  
 STEPHEN PADDOCK  
 SHUBAEL BARNARD  
 STEPHEN HUSSEY  
 RICHD. MITCHEL JUNR.  
 GRAFTON GARDNER.

At a Proprietors meeting held at the Town House in Sherbourn the 13th 5m. 1775.

Voted that the Propriety will Exchange some Land that they have on the west side of the Market House now building being 8 feet wide & 20 feet Long with William Rotch he building 2d House 60 feet Long instead of 40.

This property was owned and occupied many years by Insurance Companies and in 1861 was purchased by James Codd and Samuel C. Wyer Trustees for an association of Whaling Masters called the Pacific Club or Captains Room. In the Great Fire the interior of this building and its contents were destroyed, but the walls were uninjured. For many years the office of the Custom House has been in this building.

Previous to the building of St. Paul's Church the only material beside wood from which Nantucket buildings were constructed has been brick. After the fire of 1846 brick blocks were erected along the line of the square, but only a limited number of brick dwellings were ever built and these generally by the wealthy whaling merchants.

On the south-east corner of North Water and Sea street was the dwelling of Aaron Mitchell which was destroyed by the Great Fire. It was probably built about 1800.

There were erected between 1830 and 1845 nine brick mansions of considerable elegance and cost.

Jared Coffin built the house on the corner of Pleasant and Mill streets. Then later in 1845 he built the Broad street section of the Ocean House. In the spring of 1846 he moved to Boston.

Philip H. Folger built the house on the south-west corner of Orange and Main streets, and for years owned and occupied by Lient. Thomas M. Gardner.

The other six are on Main street. On the south side at the corner of Ray's Court is that built by Charles G. Coffin about 1832, and in 1906 is owned by his descendants. On the north side of Main street a few houses west of the Pacific Bank is the house built by Frederic Mitchell. Nearly opposite the Charles G. Coffin estate is that of his brother Henry built a few years later and still owned by his heirs.

On the north side of Main at the head of Pleasant stand the three Starbuck houses which have a unique history. Joseph Starbuck, in early life a butcher, developed into a whaling merchant of unusual success. His house was on the east side of Risdale street next south of Milk. He had five children, George, Matthew and William and two daughters; Eunice who married William Hadwen, and Eliza the wife of Nathaniel Barney. In 1837 Joseph Starbuck purchased several estates on Main street and built the three brick houses and installed one of his sons in each, assigning to George the oldest that farthest west; to Matthew the center house, and the easternmost to the youngest son

William. These were not immediatly placed in the control of the sons, but the transfer was made in 1850. The house of William Starbuck is now owned by G. J. Kingman of Brockton. The others are still owned by the descendants of the Starbucks.

William Hadwen built the house on the south-east corner of Main street and Pleasant, owned in 1905 by Joseph S. Barney.

## CHAPTER XII.

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### *Ancient Buildings of Nantucket Continued.*

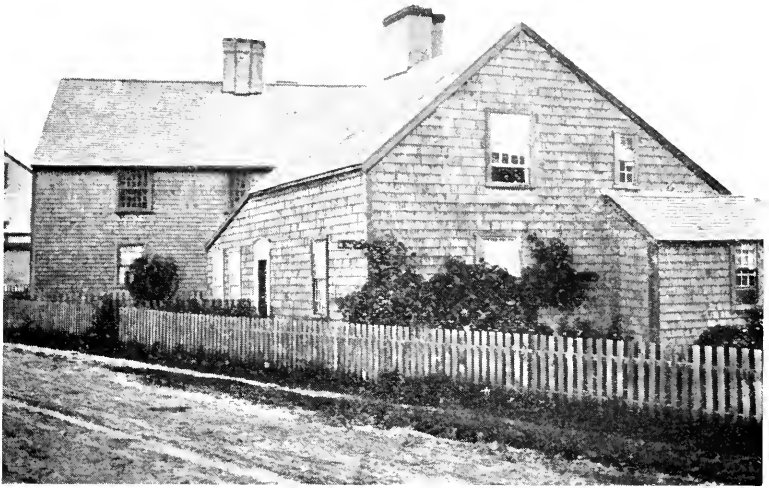
In 1799, during the administration of John Adams, a direct tax was levied on the people of the United States, and under the required procedure it became necessary to name the streets. In Nantucket this work was under the supervision of Isaac Coffin, Esq. His list of streets was recorded in the Registry of Deeds, and is of the highest value for historical purposes, as it not only delineates and names all existing ways, but designates the owners of three hundred houses and localities.

This list will be given entire with notes and explanations, the Coffin schedule in heavy type. The houses marked \* are not standing in 1906.

**Academy Lane.** North-east corner of house\* of Enoch Coffin then in a zig-zag course, west, north and west by house\* of George Clark to the Academy.\*

Coffin's house stood on the west side of Center street; the Clark house on the north side of the Lane directly south from the old Vestry on land owned by Miss Madeline Mixer.

The Academy was located a few yards north of the present High School Building on the south side at the west end of Academy Lane. A writer to the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1807 stated that it was not in use,



Timothy Swain House.

David Swain House.



Abel Gardner House.





but was "employed as a private school." In 1800 the land whereon the Academy stood was sold by George Clark to Shubael Coffin, Rowland Gelston, Jonathan Myricks, Jr., and Joshua Coffin as a committee for the owners and proprietors of the Academy. In 1818 they conveyed the property to the First Congregational Church.

**Angola Street.** South Mill street westward on south side of houses\* of Joseph Painter, Peter Boston and west to house\* of Benjamin Paddock.

In another place New Guiney is described as the Negro town or village south and east of the wind mills near house of Hezekiah Russell. Angola street is in this region. Boston and Painter were colored families.

**Ash Lane.** North-west corner land Jedidah Fitch, near his house\* on Centre street, east near house\* of Paul Gardner, Jr.

This is the narrow street extending from Center to North Water north of the Ocean House. The Fitch House stood on the land connected with the Ocean House and Gardner's House was on the corner of Center and Broad. The Ocean House was built in the early part of 1845 by Jared Coffin. The brick annex was erected by the late Eben W. Allen, when he was conducting the property as a hotel.

**Ash Street.** At house of Levi Joy, Centre street, east by house\* of Jethro Mitchell.

The Joy house was on the north-east corner and was probably built about 1765 by David Joy for his son Levi who later moved to Hudson and sold the house to Thomas Smith in 1799, and the house is owned in 1906, the north half by Mrs. E. B. Coffin and the south by the heirs of Barzillai Pinkham. The Mitchell house stood on the north-west corner of North Water street and Ash.

**Back Street.** North-east corner **Tristram Swain, Jr.**, on **Orange street**, west by house of **Sylvanus Russell** to **Pleasant street**.

In the south part of the town **Union street** joins **Orange**. **Back street** is the first street north of the junction, which extends west.

**Barnard's Court.** **Pleasant street** at house\* of **Jonathan Gardner**, west to house\* of **Andrew Barnard**.

This is about half way between **Main** and **Mill streets**, and leads west to the premises owned in 1905 by **Joseph S. Barney**. At the west end of this land stood the house of **Andrew Barnard**.

**Barton's Lane.** **Pleasant street**, south side house heirs **Seth Coffin** to **Pine street**, near house\* **Francis Coleman**.

This is the second street south of **Farmer**. At **Pine street** this lane would appear like a continuation of **Lyon street** west.

The **Coffin** house was that in 1905 owned by **Sylvanus Mowry**.

**Beach Street.** **Richard Mitchell's house\***, north to foot of the cliff.

No such street is now known. It was probably a short passway that once existed west of the land whereon the **Point Breeze Hotel** now stands.

**Bear Street.** North-west **Peltiah Swain's house\*** on **Pleasant street**, east to **Orange street**, south side **Tristram Bunker house\***.

This street joins **Orange** at the **Railroad crossing**.

**Beaver Lane.** South-east James Clark's house on Union Street by south side house\* of William Wyer, west to Orange street.

This is the second street north of junction of Orange with Union street.

The Clark House is now owned by Charles B. Cathcart and is one of the oldest houses in that section. The original house was a small leanto with very large chimney. Several additions have been made, all probably previous to 1800.

**Black Horse Lane.** South-west Barnabas Coleman house\*, east to Water street by house of Laban Mitchell.\*

This has been closed since the fire. It was a narrow passway from Federal street east a few yards south of Broad.

**Brennan's Lane.** Mill street near Brewer's Corner, north by house\* built by Francis Coleman, to New Mill street.

This road was north of Mill Hill but has been closed for many years.

**Broad Street.** North-west corner of Ebenezer Calef's house\* on Center street, east to New North Wharf.

The house of Ebenezer Caleb stood on the south-east corner opposite the Ocean House on land which was the northernmost Wescoe Acre lot and owned in 1726 by Jedediah Fitch and later conveyed to his son-in-law Ebenezer Caleb. The new North Wharf is now owned and used by the Steamboat Company.

**Beach Court.** North-west corner house\* of Ichabod Aldridge, west by house\* of Andrew Brock and house\* of Nathan Barker.

This is now called Brock Court, and extends to houses of Capt. Barzillai Burdett and the late Henry C. Pinkham.

Ichabod Aldridge had two houses, one at each corner of the Court at the junction with Liberty. That on the north-west corner was purchased in part by the late Thomas B. Field, and an attempt was made to transform the building into a Wind Mill.

**Brewer's Lane.** North-east corner house\* of Joseph Swain on Federal street, west by south side of house\* of Obed Barnard to Center street.

Before the great fire a passway existed between Centre and Federal street, which was a continuation easterly of Hussey street, and on the 1830 map it was call Brown's Lane, but it was closed after 1846.

**Bunker's Court.** North-west corner of Liberty and Pearl street to north-east by Grindall Gardner's house and house of heirs of Caleb Bunker in Egypt.

This was opened by the heirs of Caleb Gardner in 1799. To understand this description, the present course of Hussey street from Centre to Liberty should be kept in mind. In 1799 Hussey's Court extended from Centre west a few feet beyond the corner of Westminster street. The other end of Hussey street was Bunker's Court, and it reached a point a few rods distant from the west end of Hussey's Court. Later the intervening space was crossed by a lay-out, and the whole named Hussey street.

Grindall Gardner's house is the gambrel roofed cottage on the east side near Liberty street, and was built for him about 1772 on land that was part of the Homestead of Caleb Gardner. It is an unusual type, being gambrel roof on the front side only. In 1803, Elizabeth, widow of Grindall Gardner, sold it to Abraham Coffin and Emeline Coffin in 1868 conveyed it to Henry G. Brown. In recent years it was occupied by Capt. Benjamin F. Brown.

The house of the heirs of Caleb Bunker was the Caleb Gardner mansion on the north side of the street as it curves to the eastward. It was built by Caleb Gardner in 1733, and is an example of the house of that period. In 1906 it belongs to the descendants of Alex E. Drew.

**Candle Street.** North-west corner warehouse\* or store of Peleg Coffin on Main street, south by Benjamin Baker's\* house to Washington street near Lydia Giles\*\*.

This is the street along which the Railroad extends from Main street south to Washington.

**Center Street.** South-east corner house\* William Hammett, north by Thomas Gardner's gate to Chester street.

The land at the junction of Main and Liberty streets was set off in 1723 to the heirs of Joseph Gardner and in 1799 was conveyed by Matthew Jenkins to Hammett. It was purchased by Dr. Oliver C. Bartlett in 1810 and transferred by him to the Pacific Bank in 1818 and the present brick building was then erected. During the fourteen years of its existence before that date the Bank had occupied a building on the land now the location of the Roman Catholic Church.

A few yards north of Lily street at the junction of

Center and West Chester is the entrance to the houses in the region called Gull Island which in 1799 was owned by Thomas Gardner and later by his son Capt. Charles Gardner. In recent years the section has been owned by Joseph and Benjamin Sheffield and Mrs. Harriet Riddell. By ancient usage the term "Island" imparted not only a tract surrounded by water but upland surrounded by swamp. Possibly the Lily Pond may sometime have encircled Gull Island but the other definition seems more appropriate according to modern conditions.

Center street was laid out in 1678 when the Wescoe Acre lots were divided and so was one of the first to be opened within the present limits of the town. It was always popular as a residential locality, but south of Broad street most of the houses were destroyed in the Great Fire.

The Methodist Church, by many called "The Chapel," occupied land which in 1733 Jethro Starbuck gave to his son-in-law Richard Mitchell and where the latter built a house. His son Peleg in 1822 sold the property to the leading Methodist of Nantucket, Dr. Oliver C. Bartlett and then the present church was built. The property in 1823 was transferred to Trustees John Jenkins, Perez Jenkins, Solomon Folger, Nathaniel Rand, Jonathan Smith, Walter Cure, Frederic Worth, and William Jenkins, most of whom had belonged to the Teaser meeting on Fair street. These two congregations united about 1853. According to the recollection of persons who had an opportunity to make the comparison there was a wide difference between the methods pursued by these two societies. The early Methodists favored a vigorous style of worship and hence attracted people of certain tem-

peraments. But this developed to such an extent at the Teaser, that some of the members felt the necessity of establishing a more subdued form and so they built the Chapel.

On the east side of Center, and north of Step Lane, is a three-story house owned by F. Willett Folger. On this site in 1684 William Gayer built his house. His land lay between Center street and the bank, and extended from Step Lane north to Chester street. At his death in 1711 this estate passed to his daughter Damaris Coffin, the wife of Nathaniel.

William Gayer had received a good education and was a useful man in the early history of Nantucket. In some works on Heraldry he is said to be one of the few Englishmen in America who were entitled to Coats of Arms. He married the daughter of Edward Starbuck before 1674. In his will is a reference to a son, William who had left the Island.

His property was left to Damaris Coffin and Doreas Starbuck the wife of Jethro. From these two women have descended many famous and prominent persons.

**Charter Street.** South-west corner house of Micajah Coffin, Pine street, east by Benjamin Whippey's house\* to Fair street, near house\* of Charles Chase.

This street was opened, one rod wide, in 1747, through the middle of Fish Lot No. 22. The land on the north side of the street was owned by Damaris Coffin, who in 1760 sold the lot at the west end to her son Micajah. This house which is still standing.

The Benjamin Whippey house was taken down about 1885 by Wm. H. Chadwick, and in the cellar was dug up an iron pot containing a considerable amount of silver and copper coins.

**Cherry Lane.** North-east house\* **Elisha Ellis**, west by house\* of **Charles Swain** to **Pleasant street**.

This extended west from Orange street near the Asylum.

**Chestnut Street.** South-west corner house\* of **Bachelor Hussey** on **Center Street**, east by house\* of **Caleb Macy** on south side to **Water street**.

This was laid out in 1719. At the south-west corner of Federal and Chestnut, before 1700, stood a house owned by Stephen Hussey. In the great fire an ancient house on this spot was destroyed, and may have been the Hussey dwelling.

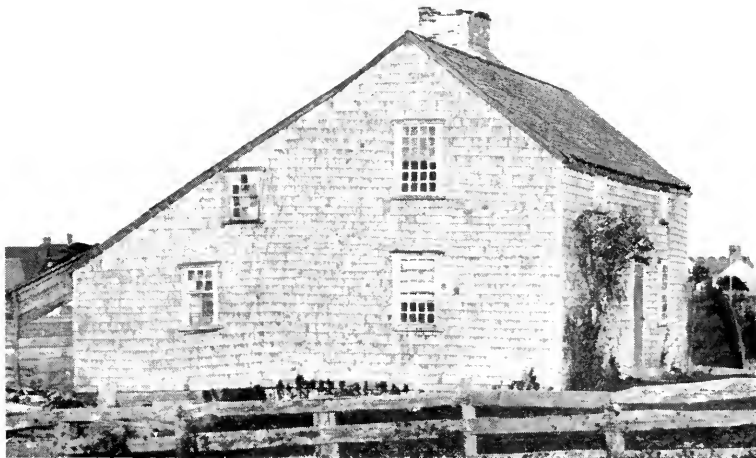
**Coffin Court.** South-east of house of **Joshua Coffin**, west from **Center street** fifty rods.

This is now called Gay street, and Coffin's house was on the corner of Center where later lived George Cobb.

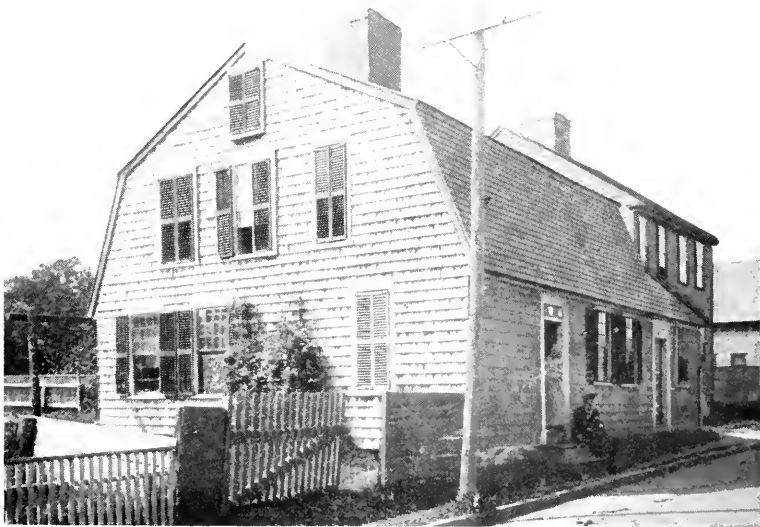
**Chester Street.** **Francis Joy** house\*, west by houses of **Tristram Pinkham\***, **Valentine Pease\*** and **John Brock**.

Probably the oldest street on the Island. It extended from Capaum to the Great Harbor and is mentioned as early as 1671. Along its line ran the ditch that drained the Lily or Wescoe Pond. Water power on Nantucket was never of much value but the settlers had to use it however weak, so on this ditch between Center and North Water streets they built a mill, that appears to have been a failure no doubt because of the feeble power of the brook. But being the road that connected the two harbors it inevitably became the most important of the early thoroughfares of the Island and for the first half century of Nantucket under the English was the principal line of communication between Wannacomet and Wescoe. It





Paddock House — Sun Set Hill.



Paddock House — Pearl Street.



was on this way that the Meeting House and Town House were built, and near it were erected many of the dwellings occupied by the first settlers.

The Francis Joy House, demolished within a few years stood on the north-east corner of Chester and North streets on the lot now occupied by the house of Dr. J. S. Ganard, and directly across the line of North Water street.

The John Brock house is still standing on the south side of the road opposite the Horseshoe House and is owned by Peter Brock his grandson. It is a leanto built about 1724 for Capt. Richard Gardner. It closely resembles the Major Coffin house. Owing to its position the best view must be obtained from some point on the west edge of the Pond.

The Paddock house stands a few yards south-east from the Horseshoe house. It is a very ancient looking structure, although it was probably built between 1720 and 1725 by Nathaniel Paddock, the owner of the Coffin house. It remained in the Paddock family until 1763, when Paul Paddock sold to Christopher Hussey; 1777, John Fosdick; 1810, David Brown; 1812, Joseph Earle; 1818, Robert Callaway, by whose descendants it is still owned.

On the west side of the Lily Pond, North Liberty street extends to Chester. On the south-west corner of these streets stood the house of Valentine Pease.

The Pinkham house stood next west to the house of Joseph C. Chase which in 1906 was purchased for a parsonage for the North Congregational Church.

The part of Chester street west of Center has been renamed West Center street.

**Cambridge Street.** Federal street at the south-west corner of house of Josiah Barker\*, east by house\* of Peggy Wyer on north side and on north side of house\* of Wilson Rawson, to Old Wharf.

The Rawson house stood on the south-west corner of Cambridge street and Coal Lane.

The Josiah Barker house stood next north of the Roman Catholic church on the lot occupied by the house of the late Joseph B. Macy.

**Coal or Cod Lane.** Main street by south-west corner house\* of heirs of George Gardner: North by east side, house\* of Wilson Rawson, and house\* of Ruth Coffin to Pearl street, near house\* of Jethro Coffin.

This lane extends by the Brick Building occupied as an auction and furniture room at the lower end of the square.

**Copper Street.** Milk, near Zebdial Gwinn's house\*, south through Allentown by Edward Allen's house\*, south and east by Wind Mills to the Cow Bars near James Johnson's Pond in Newtown.

This Pond was opposite the Asylum on the west side of Orange street.

Edward Allen was a contractor and built several houses on Copper street.

On the east side of Copper near Milk is an old leanto which was owned by Elias Ceeley and later by Capt. David Cartwright. It was moved there about 1800 from the Matthew Myrick land at junction of Mill and Milk streets.

**Crown Court.** Center street at south-east corner house of William Brock: west by houses of David Hussey and Jonathan Myrick, Jr.

This is now Quince street, and was opened in 1719. The

William Brock house stands on the corner opposite the Engine House, and in 1906 is owned by Timothy P. Pitman.

The Myrick house was built about 1795 by Mrs. Ann Gelston, and she sold it to Myrick in 1797. It is standing on the north-east corner of Quince and Westminster streets.

**Darling Street.** South-east corner James Cartwright house: west by Job Thurston's house\* and house\* of Jonathan Marvin to Pine street.

The Cartwright house is still standing on the north-west corner of Fair street.

The Thurston house stood on the south side, on the site of the house owned by Capt. James Henry Barnard, and later owned by Mrs. Susan C. Williams.

This street is said to have been named from a man by that name who came from Boston and married the sister of Charles Folger.

**Dover Street.** Obed Luce house\*, west by house\* of Mary Butler and house\* of Jeffrey Simmons to Pleasant street.

It is the street next north of York and extended from Pleasant to Union, the Obed Luce house being on the latter street.

The Mary Butler house was on the corner of Orange street.

**Duke Street.** Main street east of Joseph Marshall's house\*, west and south by south side E. Heath's house\* and houses of William Clark\*, James Newbegin\*, heirs William Coleman north and west to Shearpen.

This was one of the early roads from the original location of the town east to the Great Harbor, and previous

to the removal to Wescoe had many houses on both sides, particularly in the part west of Crooked Lane. It branches from Main street a short distance west of Saratoga street.

The Shearpen occupied a tract near Maxey's Pond.

Elihu Coleman was a carpenter, and in 1722 built his homestead where he lived over sixty years. It is located a short distance east of Hummock Pond. In 1862 the property was purchased by the late Wm. Hosier, and by him given to the town. The house closely resembles the Josiah Coffin and Richard Gardner houses, and is an interesting example of that period. How well the young mechanic built can be judged by the firm and sturdy appearance of the structure, not a line or timber of which seems to have yielded to the influences of two centuries. At his death the homestead passed to his son William.

A few rods east of the Coleman house is a ditch that drains a small swamp, and flows into the Hummock Pond. An attempt was made to utilize the water for a mill, and the stream was called Mill Brook. On the north side of the road is a lot surrounded by thorn trees, and is known as the Thorn Lot. Just east of this tract was the land which in 1727 George Newbegin purchased from William and Abiel Clasby, and there built the house which was occupied by this eccentric family for nearly a century and a half.

The name Duke street met with no favor, and was soon discontinued.

Of the many dwellings that lined the street a century ago, with the exception of the Elihu Coleman house, not a vestige remains.

**Eagle Lane.** Pine street near house\* of Patience Black, east on south side of Job Swain's house\* to Fair street, eastward of Seth Russell's house\*.

At the south end of Fair street, this Lane extends west to Pine street.

**Essex Street.** Pleasant street, north-east corner pasture of Silas Jones in Newtown, north and west by Sarah Tashemy's house, to west of Negro houses in New Guiney, west toward the Rope Walks by Charles Bunker's pasture, south of the Mills, by south side of the Rope Walks and to the west.

In some of its course this is merely a cart path and not a clearly defined way. Where now appears only one mill, in 1799 stood three. Several references are made of the Rope Walks. They stood on the hill occupied by the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

**Fair Street.** North-east corner house\* Paul Gardner, senior; south by house\* of Jonathan Macy house of George Bunker, south to West Monomoy shores.

In 1717 when the Fish Lot Division was laid out Fair street was opened across the shares. The Gardner house stood at the south-west corner of Main and Fair streets and was taken down nearly fifty years ago. The George Bunker house stands at the south-west corner of Fair street and Hiller's Lane. This house and that of James Cartwright filled the space between Darling street and Hiller's Lane. Fair street ends abruptly at a house. This is the line between the Fish Lots and West Monomoy shares, the house being in the latter division.

The house taken down recently next to the corner of Main street was in part an older structure than appeared. The south-east corner including the pilastered chimney was built by Benjamin Gardner shortly after 1727.

On the south-west corner of Fair and Lyon streets for half a century after 1799 stood the First Methodist Church usually called "The Teaser Meeting House." When the land was purchased from Nathaniel and Anne Bunker the Trustees were Samuel Barrett, Ebenezer Rand, Elijah Pease, Grindall Gardner, John Sherman, Samuel Bigelow and Dr. Oliver C. Bartlett. Later Simeon and Perez Jenkins were Trustees. Several of these if not all had been previously connected with the Congregational Church.

The first Meeting House was built in 1799, and shortly before 1840 was taken down and another built on the same lot. When the latter was dedicated flags were used to decorate the building, and in a prominent place was displayed the large flag with a huge T painted on it, which belonged to the sloop Teaser. From this circumstance the place was afterwards known as the "Teaser Meeting House."

The original Coffin school stood on the east side of Fair street about 100 feet north of Lyon street, on the lot in recent years owned by Thomas S. Ames. The building was erected as a private institution about 1823 on land conveyed by John, Perez and William Jenkins to the Trustees of the Nantucket Lancasterian School. After the endowment by Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin, a special act of the Legislature was passed incorporating the Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin Lancasterian School, and the property conveyed to the new Corporation.

**Farmer Street.** North-east corner house of Jethro Pinkham on Fair street, west by Christopher Swain's house to Pine street.

This street is the next south of Darling, not counting Macy's Court. The Pinkham house is still standing on



the south-west corner of Fair and Farmer. The Christopher Swain house is the gambrel roof dwelling on the north side near Pleasant. In 1768 Thomas Bunker sold to Swain "where the house of Swain now stands." Between 1755 and 1756, Thomas Bunker married Anna, the sister of Swain, and the house was built during that period. It was later owned by Abishai and Owen Swain, and in 1906 by Albert Clark.

**Federal Street.** South-east corner of house\* of William Macy on Main street; north by house\* of William Hussey, Jr., to Broad street by house\* of Jonathan Jenkins.

When the Wescoe Acre Lots were laid-out the water of the harbor reached its east edge along the line of this street. All to the east has been filled in by leveling sand dunes just before the section east to water was laid out as Bocochieo in 1743.

William Macy's house stood on the north-west corner of Main and Federal streets where is now the Nickerson Brick Store.

**Fish Street.** Orange street at north-east corner of house\* of Timothy Swain, senior; east by the south side of house\* of Jethro Starbuck to Union street.

This is the extension of Back street east of Orange.

**Gardner's Court.** South-west corner house\* of Valentine Swain, 2nd, on Orange street, by Nathaniel Gardner's house to house\* of Solomon Coleman, Jr.

This is the passway that extends east from Orange street a few rods south of Main at the corner of the house of the late James Easton which occupies the same lot as the Swain house above mentioned.

At the east end of the Court and on south side is the old house owned by Stephen Easton from 1847 and by his heirs in 1899 conveyed to Hattie E. Andrews. Previous to 1832 the east part was the residence of John W. Barrett and the west end of Thomas Smith. Stone Alley formerly called Gunter's Alley was opened after 1800. The Solomon Coleman and the Stephen Easton house were probably the same building.

**Gardner Lane.** South-east corner house of Samuel Riddell on Fair street, west to Pine on side of house of Alexander Gardner.

Riddell's house was on the west side of Fair street between Moose and Garden Lane, and was conveyed to him in 1781 by Shubael Pinkham. In some of the old deeds this is called Gardner's Lane, because the land on both sides was owned by George Gardner and his descendants.

**Gardner's Lane.** Pleasant street, near house\* of Prince Gardner, Jr., west by his cooper shop to house\* of Benjamin Paddock, Jr.

The Brick House on the south-west corner of Pleasant and Mill streets is now owned by H. B. Williams. The premises of Prince Gardner were just south of this house. This passage way has been closed for years.

**Gardner Street.** South-west corner house of Christopher Starbuck, north to Liberty street, near house of widow Eunice Gardner.

In a deed from Ebenezer Gardner to Zaccheus Macy, dated 1763, this right-of-way was conveyed, and it has been opened since. At that time the house of Christopher



Ziecheus Macy House.  
Nathaniel Macy House.

Christopher Starbuck House.  
Stephen Chase House.



Starbuck, in 1906 owned by Mrs. Benjamin G. Tobey, was in its present location. This house belongs to the period after 1720, and was placed on the lot about 1756.

On the corner of Gardner street and Howard is a house for several years owned by Patrick Cox. Henry Mitchell said the house stood on Duke street near Crooked or Long Lane, and was sold by Jonathan Coleman in 1771 to his son-in-law Samuel Riddell, and later it was moved to its present location.

This illustrates a source of perplexity that is constantly appearing in the investigation of the old houses of Nantucket. Buildings are found in which the construction seems to ante-date the period when the land could have been occupied. The only explanation is that the houses were first erected elsewhere, and then removed to the present position. This is probably true concerning the Christopher Starbuck house.

**Grave Street.** Milk street, near Zebdial Gwinn's house\*, north and east of Friends Burial Ground to Main street.

In recent years this is named Saratoga street. One of the famous buildings on this street was the "Big Shop" where George and Reuben Coffin carried on boat building, and which was used as a club room evenings. Here were held anti-slavery meetings when other halls were refused. It was located about one hundred yards north of Milk street on the west side, and was taken down some years ago.

**Green Street.** Reuben Starbuck's house\*, west by Simeon Starbuck's house\* to Grave street, near Friends Burying Ground.

On the north side of Milk street at its junction with New Mill is the house of Thomas Starbuck. This was

once a Starbuck neighborhood. Next west of this house is a small dwelling owned by Charles H. Macy. Between these two houses is a street that extends a few yards north and then west where it united with Vestal. According to the modern condition it does not reach Saratoga street.

Reuben Starbuck's house stood at the first angle north of Milk. On the lot now occupied by Macy was the house of Jethro Starbuck and in the vacant lot next west was the house of Simeon Starbuck.

**High Street.** Pleasant street at south-west corner of the old Poor House\*, east to Pine street, between house\* of Reuben Coffin and land of the Town of Nantucket, where the old Jail\* and the old Poor House\* stand.

This street is next south of Summer. In the description of Prison Lane the New Poor House is mentioned. How early the town established a poor house and jail on High street cannot be determined. They were probably there as early as 1761, and soon after 1800 they were taken down.

**Hiller's Lane.** North-east corner house of George Bunker, west by south side of house\* of Jonathan Long, the barber, to Pine street, by school house\*, of Elisha Macy.

This is the first street north of Darling.

**Hussey Court.** Centre street, north-east corner, house\* of Stephen Hussey, west by Mary Bernard's house.

This is now the east part of Hussey street, and was opened in 1758. The Barnard house is still standing on the north-west corner of Hussey and Westminster streets, and is owned by Josiah F. Murphy. It belongs to the

leanto style of single house, and has the typical one story addition to west side. It was probably erected in its present location about 1758 by Timothy Barnard, the father of Libni, who left it to his widow Mary. It has some indications of belonging to an earlier style of construction, and may have been removed from some other situation. Bunker's and Hussey's Courts now form Hussey street.

**Independence Lane.** Federal street, south-east corner, John Cartwright's house\*, west by house\* of Ebenezer Coleman to Center street.

On the north side of Main street between Center and Federal, is a continuous row of brick blocks. The line of the street is very different from what existed before the Great Fire. Then the corner of Federal street reached a point so far south of its present position, that it coincided with the north line of Liberty street. After the Fire the town widened the street by taking a strip of land and placing the street line in its present location. Before that change in the rear of the buildings on Main street and exactly following the line of Rose Lane which extends west of Center, was a narrow passage way from Federal to Center. This was Independence Lane. The engine house on Center street covers its end. The house of John Cartwright occupied the same land now owned by H. S. Wyer.

**Jefferson Lane.** Fair street, south-east corner house\* of Bartlett Coffin, west by north side of house\* of Abishai Hayden to Pine street by house\* of Francis Coleman.

Next north of Eagle Lane.

**Liberty Street.** South-east corner of Peleg Mitchell's house\*, west by house\* of Benjamin Fosdick, Silvanus Starbuck\*, Ichabod Aldridge\*, Solomon Coleman\* and Seth Ray, north to Chester street by house\* of Valentine Pease.

This street was laid out in 1678 with the Wescoe Acre Lots but there is no evidence of any houses being built thereon before 1720. After the removal of the residences to Wescoe this street was soon occupied.

The Peleg Mitchell house stood on the corner now covered by the M. E. Church.

The house designated as that of Benjamin Fosdick is the double leanto on the north side a few yards west of Winter street. In 1801 he devised the west half to his son Benjamin and the east part to his son Reuben. Ten years before he had conveyed to his son Peter "where he lived." This was the house at the head of Winter street owned by Josiah F. Barrett, sheriff.

The west half of the Homestead was conveyed to Edwin H. Swain and then to Jesse Baker and in 1906 is owned by Mrs. Hodges. The east half was transferred by Reuben Fosdick to Capt. Wm. Calder and is now owned by Mrs. Emily Coffin. This house belongs to the style in vogue in 1720 and later and was probably built by Benjamin Fosdick between 1740 and 1750.

On the west edge of the Lily Pond is a curious weather beaten two-story gambrel that was built by Seth Ray about 1798 and in 1802 sold by him to Nathaniel Barrett and since known as the Barrett house.

Few persons realize the curious course of the series of roads included under the name of Liberty street. Starting at Center street, its first direction was west, but after



reaching Gardner street it follows a snake-like track through Egypt around the Lily Pond, and finally joining Chester street. Valentine Pease's house stood on the south-west corner of Chester and Liberty.

Next west of the Chapel is the house built by Jonathan Barney about 1756. His wife Lydia was the daughter of Jethro Starbuck.

Next west is the house that was built by Barnabas Pinkham in 1748; sold in 1791 to Uriah Swain, and in 1815 to Paul West. Under his charge it became considerably improved, and is marked by unusual elegance and good taste. The frame was heavy, and the timbers though encased, indicates its early construction. It is probably one of the first houses on the Island built with both front and rear two stories in height.

Further west on the same side and near the head of Walnut Lane is the Nye House, an old leanto built about 1740 by Thomas and William Starbuck, and in 1743 conveyed to their sister Jemima Allen, the wife of Silvanus.

On the south-west corner of Liberty and Walnut Lane is a house which though certainly very old has been the subject of much error and conjecture. It has been asserted that it was the first house built on the Island and was named from Maddaket where it had been erected in 1665. It belongs to the regular 1720 type of leanto house and might be expected to date about that period except for the fact that it fronts to the north.

The land was set off by the Proprietors in 1723 to Thomas Macy and the house could not have been there before that date. In 1745 he conveys the land on both sides of the Lane between Main and Liberty streets to his three sons and provided that each should have the house

where he lived. This gave all on the east side of Walnut Lane to his son Francis, and on the west side the Main street end went to Robert, and the Liberty street land and house to Nathaniel. The house was there at that date and the only inquiry is how much earlier. The records indicate that Thomas Macy did not live in that locality. Nathaniel Macy was married about 1741. These facts would lead to the conclusion that the house was built on this land about that date. There is a possibility that the house was moved to its present location and that it was first constructed elsewhere. If this were established it would probably also appear that it was first built near Capaum and not later than 1720 because it belongs to that period and could not have been planned at a previous date.

**Lily Street.** South-east corner, cooper shop\* of Peter Folger on Center street, south-west by Amos Wood's house.\*

The shop stood on the lot now occupied by the house of the late Joseph B. Swain.

**Lyon Street.** North-east corner shop\* of Thomas Coffin near his house\* on Orange street, west by George Swain and James Swain's house\* to Pine street.

The Swain houses were on Fair street, and the Teaser Meeting House was later built on the south-west corner of Lyon and Fair.

**Long Lane.** South-east corner house of Benjamin Merchant, north and west by house of William Gardner, 2nd, north to north shore, or Wannacomet lot or pasture.

This lane is west of No Bottom Pond, and begins at Duke street where the Merchant house was on the north-west corner.

At the south-east corner of Long Lane and West Chester street was the house of William Stratton, and south, that of Dennis Manning.

This was also called Crooked Lane.

**Macy Court.** Gardner street at house\* of Richard Macy, west by south side house of Thomas Snow by north side house of Zaccheus Macy, Jr., and westward.

This is the first passway north of Main street, now called Howard street. The Macys owned the land between it and Main street. The Zaccheus Macy, Jr., house is standing and is owned by the Austin sisters. It is on the south side of the street. It was a leanto, fronted south back to street. In 1866 the sloping north roof was raised to two stories in height. It was probably built by Zaccheus Macy, Jr., who married about 1790, but the house was probably moved from some location where it had been erected years before, as it belongs to a style in vogue about 1720 to 1750.

The house of Zaccheus Macy stands on the north-west corner of Main and Gardner streets.

**Macy Lane.** Fair street, north-east corner Benjamin Coffin house\*, west by Shubael Macy and Jabez Macy houses to Pine street by house\* of Josiah Calder.

South of Darling street west from Fair is a court extending to an old house formerly owned by the family of Reuben Allen. This is all that remains of the lane opened in 1758. The west part was once called Pump Lane, and has been closed. The Allen house was once the residence of Stephen Macy, and is in 1906 used by Benjamin Robinson as a carpenter shop. It was a leanto, facing south, with a large chimney at east end. The brick were of full

standard size, laid in clay that was used in place of mortar. The frame shows bracketed corner posts and beams of oak. It may have been moved there from some other part of the Island, but could not have been located in its present position before 1717 when the Fish Lots were laid out. It is one of the very few houses that face south and stand end to the street, the only street in 1717 being Fair. If built in 1717 small sized brick might have been expected instead of the modern standard style. On the other hand the use of clay instead of mortar seems to be ancient. There was no clay filling between the walls. The frame is remarkably sound for a house of such age.

There is a tradition that the house in which the first Thomas Macy lived at North shore was moved to town after 1730 and rebuilt near this Reuben Allen house.

**Madison Lane.** Union street, north-east corner store or warehouse\* of Joseph Rotch, then William Rotch; west to Federal street near house\* of John Cartwright, which is bounded on Federal street and Independence lane.

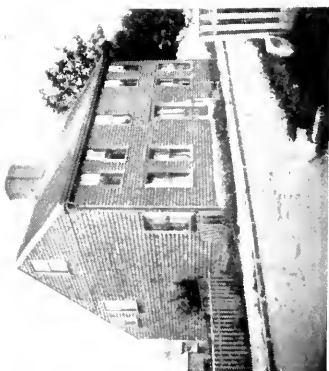
Madison Lane was a continuation of Independence Lane east of Federal street.

**Maiden Lane.** Union street, north-east corner house James Whippey, west to Orange street by land of Silvanus Coffin, deceased.

This street is nearly opposite the junction of York with Orange and for many years has been called Lower York street.

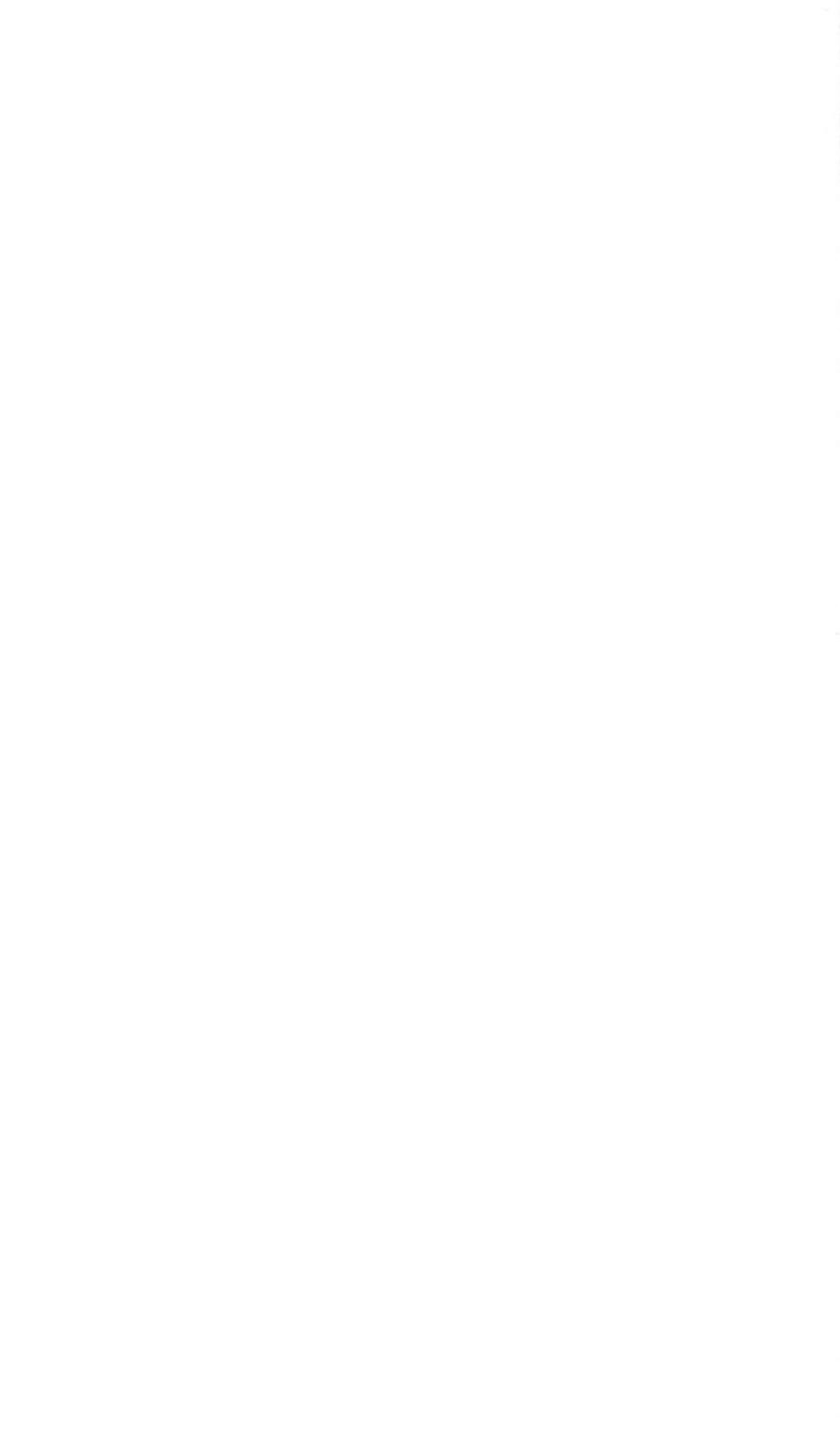
**Main Street.** Straight wharf west by houses of William Macy\*, Peleg Coffin\*, Zaccheus Macy, Timothy Coffin\*, Timothy Gardner\*, Joseph Marshall\*, Frederick Folger\* and Jethro Folger\* to west Shearpen and to Cambridge.

This was probably an open way before 1700, but the first mention in the records is 1726.



Head of Main Street,  
Nye House.

Benjamin Fosdick House,  
Richard Gardner House.



William Macy's house stood on the north-west corner of Federal and is probably the same building shown in the view of this street in the Atheneum Library Room.

Zaccheus Macy's house is still standing at the north-west corner of Main and Gardner streets. It is a leanto after the style in vogue between 1730 and 1750. Macy bought land of Barnabas Gardner in 1748 and the house may have been built about that time.

Joseph Marshall's house stood near the junction of Duke street, west of Saratoga.

Cambridge was the name applied to the farm north and west of the north head of Hummock Pond, which was owned before 1700 by Nathaniel Starbuck. For over half a century before 1905 it has been owned by Bailey Cornish and his descendants.

At the Head of Main street on the north side is the residence of the late George C. Gardner. East of it stands the house known as the Lowell house, and the second west is the time-looking leanto owned by Hiram Folger and his father. Both were built by Gardners, and have a long history. The land on which they stand was part of Judge Richard Gardner's farm called "Crooked Record,"

The Lowell house is first mentioned in 1760 when the heirs of Joseph Gardner divide his real estate. This house and land was assigned to the son Charles, who in 1778 sold it to David Rand in whose family it remained until 1856 and by several deeds it passed to Judith P. Lowell the owner in 1906. It is reasonably certain that Joseph Gardner never lived here and in the division it is designated as "the land whereon the house of Charles stands." Charles was married about 1740 and this would

correspond with the style of construction found in the house. It belongs to the same style as the Paul West house having the frame of a 1720 leanto but is full two story front and rear. This style prevailed from 1745 to the date of the Revolution. This was probably built between 1740 and 1750 by Charles Gardner.

The Folger house was owned and occupied by Barnabas Gardner who was married in 1718. This house in 1789 passed to Laban Gardner who sold it in 1804 to Benjamin Whippey and in 1821 he conveyed it to Alfred Folger. In 1905 the owner is John E. Backus. Barnabas Gardner died in this house in 1768 and it is a question how much earlier the house was built. It belongs to the same period and style as the Major Coffin and Elihu Coleman houses that were built in 1724. James Gardner the father of Barnabas died in 1723 leaving this land. It would be safe to infer that the house was built from 1725 to 1735.

Peleg Coffin's house stood on the south-west corner of Main street and Ray's Court. See "Turner's Alley."

The house of Timothy Coffin stood on the lot now occupied by the house of Edward H. Perry, on the corner of Howard street.

East of the Lowell house is an open lot where in 1799 stood the house of Timothy Gardner.

The residence of the late Capt. William Baxter on the north side of Main street and next west of the house of Edward H. Perry is unique in being the only example of the Dutch Cap roof on the Island. The land was part of the Gardner Crooked Record, and in 1770 was conveyed to Edward Cory. According to the period when such houses were common in New Bedford and vicinity, it would be expected that this house was built about 1800. Probably



it was not many years before or after that date. In 1815 Robert Cory sold the property to Reuben Baxter. As Edward Cory's own Mansion stood on the south-west corner of Main and Orange streets, it seems probable that the Baxter house was built for the son Robert.

**Martin's Lane.** South-west corner house\* Jonathan Gorham Fitch on Fair street east to Orange by Joseph Coffin's house.\*

Joseph Coffin's house stood on the north west corner of Orange street and this lane, where Josiah Macy built the house now on the lot and in 1906 owned by Mary F. Hammond.

**Milk Street.** Main street at Town House\*, south-west by houses of Thomas Starbuck, William Starbuck\*, Zeb-dial Gwinn\*, to south of Abraham Hoeg's house to the north of the Ropewalk, to William Ellis in Uppertown.

The facts concerning the removal of the Town House to the junction of Main and Milk streets have already been presented; also the location of Thomas Starbuck's house at head of New Mill street.

The Hoeg house was sold to him in 1798 by William Rotch, and had been there some years and occupied by Hoeg. In 1810 it was sold to John Adlington in whose family it remained until recently. It stands on the north side of the street opposite the east end of the burial ground.

The Rope walks were on the hill at the highest elevation in the cemetery.

The Ellis house stood south-easterly from the Elihu Coleman house. Uppertown was an indefinite region in the vicinity of the Hummock Pond.

On the south-east corner of Milk and New Mill streets stands the house owned recently by James B. Coffin. It was built by Matthew Myrick shortly after the Revolution, and is an excellent specimen of the popular Nantucket House of that date.

The William Starbuck house stood on the south side of Milk, west of New Mill in a lot between the houses of William Allen and that of Isaiah Folger.

**Mill Street.** Pleasant street near the boat builders' shop\* of Sylvanus Macy, west by Alexander Ray's house to Charles Bunker's mill\* and west to the Rope Walks.

This street extends on north side of the Jared Coffin brick house. The Ray house is still standing about half way between Pleasant street and Risdale on the north side of New Mill.

At the time this list was prepared by Isaac Coffin, there were three wind mills on the Mill Hills. And three were standing as late as 1830 when William Coffin made a map of the town. The present mill belonged to Charles or Timothy Swain, and was the easternmost.

The Charles Bunker Mill stood near the spot where Mill and New Mill streets would meet and there was one Mill between these.

**Moose Lane.** North-east corner land of Samuel Riddell by his house\* on Fair street, west by George Russell's house to Pine street by house\* of Alexander Gardner.

This is the first street south of the Building of the Historical Society. Intentionally or by mistake it has recently been called Moore's Lane.

Riddell's house stood on the south-west corner of this lane and Fair street.

**Mulberry Lane.** Orange street by the north-west corner of Enoch Ray's house, east by David Harris to Union street under Quaaty Bank.

This street is next south of Flora. Quaaty Bank is the hill that is east of Orange street and extends from Main street nearly to the junction with Union street.

**New Lane.** North-east corner house\* of Charles Folger, north through the Gardner Burying Ground by pasture of Albert Gardner north to Chester street, which leads westward of house\* of Stephen Barnard and house of John Brock.

This lane leads north from the head of Main street to Chester.

**Newtown** is the south part of the town of Nantucket.

**New Guiney.** Negro town or village south and east of the Wind Mills, near house\* of Hezekiah Russell.

The Russell house was on Pleasant street near the head of York, where lived the family of Samsom Pompey.

**New Dollar Lane.** South-east corner house of Job Macy, north to Milk street, between house\* of Samuel Coleman and house\* of Ruth Barnard.

This is now Risdale street.

The Job Macy house is still standing on the north-west corner of Mill street.

At Milk street the Barnard house was on the east corner, and the Coleman on the west.

**New Mill Street.** George Myrick's house\* south-west by house of Tristram Folger, 2nd, on south side to Wind Mill\* of Charles Bunker and westward.

The Folger house is the first on the west side south of Milk, and is owned in 1905 by Thomas Caley, and previously by Wm. Rivers.

The George Myrick house stood in the garden between the houses of Thomas Mack and James B. Coffin.

**North Street.** South-west corner Francis Joy house\*, north by Barzillai Folger house\* and house\* of Ebenezer Coffin, west by house\* of Robert Clasby and house\* of Matthew Worth and so to western Shearpen.

The Joy house was on the corner of Chester and North streets and was taken down within a few years by Dr. J. S. Grnard.

The Folger house stood on the hill on the east side of the street in the yard of Miss Nevins and was taken down by her in 1903.

The western Shearpen was located near Maxey's Pond.

On the south-west corner of Center and North streets is the ancient house owned by Mrs. Jane L. Turner. From 1800 to 1850 it was the Homestead of Thaddeus Folger. It was probably built between 1740 and 1750.

**North Beach Street.** New North wharf south-east corner, Francis Joy's store or warehouse\* to corner of cliff.

This is the usual road to the Cliff Bathing Beach. The Joy warehouse stood where the brick store of Hadwen and Barney is located.

**North New Lane.** North street by north-east corner Josiah Coffin's house, south by Francis Folger's house to Chester street, by house\* of Francis Gardner.

The Josiah Coffin house has already been described.

The Francis Gardner house stood on the east side of the Lane where now is located the house of Eben W. Francis. When the cellar of the present house was being excavated a silver tablespoon was found marked 1665 and the initials

R. G., thus marking the spot as the residence of Judge Richard Gardner. It had been erroneously supposed that his house was below the hill and nearer the Lily Pond.

**Orange Street.** Main street by Thomas Delano's house\* south by houses of Seth Coffin, Joseph Coffin, Thomas Coffin\*, Mary Butler\*, Jonathan Upham\*, Solomon Folger to Newtown gate by house\* of William Cash.

The Thomas Delano house stood on the south-west corner of Main and Orange, and was taken down by Philip H. Folger to build the present brick building.

Joseph Coffin's house stood on the corner of Martin's Lane; the Upham house on the south-west corner of William's Lane, and the Butler house on the corner of Daves street.

The Newtown Gate was a barrier across the street near the first mile stone. In the days when sheep grazing was largely followed, and in the years before 1821 when thousands of sheep roamed from one end of the Island to the other, convenience required that some arrangement be devised to keep them from the town. Gates were established at the roads that gave access to the residential section. There were several others, but the Newtown Gate being passed by all who sought Polpis or Siasconsett was more famous and was in use as late as 1840.

While Orange street was opened in 1726, yet for some reason not apparent, the old houses were removed more generally than in any other street in the town. In the space between Main street and the Asylum, just one mile long, the ancient dwellings have given place to modern structures.

Opposite the South school is the house of Seth Coffin, which was built probably between 1740 and 1750.

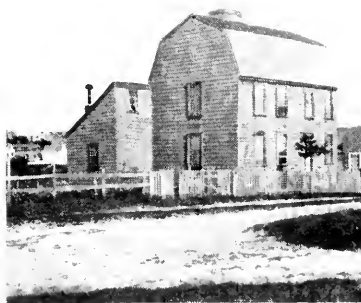
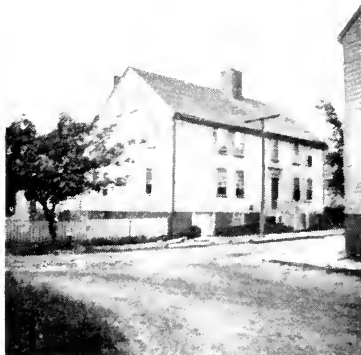
South of York street on the east side are some houses of delapidated exterior which may not be as old as the Revolution. On the side streets, east and west of Orange still remain many structures of the olden time, but the main thoroughfare to Sconset with these exceptions is a street of modern houses.

Possibly some of the well preserved houses with center chimneys may be ancient buildings transformed. Thus the dwelling of the late Capt. Charles Smalley next north of the Mansion of Wm. Barnes was built about 1769, and shows some old framing. The house of Col. Brayton opposite the Block was built about the same time.

At the Railroad Crossing on the east side of Orange street is an old appearing house of the leanto style, placed in that location about 1756 by Christopher Baxter. It remained in the Baxter family for over half a century and was then owned successively by Benjamin and Peter Raymond and Alexander Bunker and in 1895 was purchased by Wm. Modley. Its form suggests an earlier construction than 1756 and there is a possibility that it was erected here by Jabez Macy or moved from a prior situation but the records are silent as to either fact.

**Oak Street.** Water street by house\* of John Pinkham, west to Federal street, south side house\* of Ebenezer Davis.

This street extends along the north side of the Athenaeum.



William Baxter House,  
Gundall Gardner House.

James Austin House,  
Seth Ray House.





**Pearl Street.** Water street at south-east corner house\* of Jethro Hussey, west by houses of Benjamin Walcutt, Nathaniel Coleman, Ebenezer Rand, Uriah Eunker, 2nd, to Liberty street, near house\* of Ichabod Aldridge.

It was provided for in the layout of Wescoe Acre Lots in 1678.

Jethro Hussey owned the land east of the Athenaeum. In the attic of his house the Union Lodge of Free Masons met before 1792. In the west section are several interesting houses. On the south side a short distance west of Center is the gambrel which was built by Silas Paddock about 1767. From 1791 to 1829 it was owned by Wm. Barnard, and it was then conveyed to George Paddock whose descendants have since owned it.

East of this, standing at an angle with the street, is a late leanto owned recently by Mrs. Judith Mitchell, and placed on that lot by John Morris before 1762. The tradition that it was moved there is supported by the position of the house, the lot being too small to allow it to be placed squarely on the street. According to a writer in the Port-folio in 1811 this street was also called India Row from the number of residents "who reside there in ease and affluence." It was a better name than "Pearl."

Ichabod Aldridge owned and occupied two houses at the head of Pearl, both removed. On the north side of Brock's Court was a double house which the late Thomas B. Field attempted to transform in a wind mill. On the south-west corner of the Court and Liberty street was the other which was his later residence.

**Pine Street.** Main street at north-west corner of house of Joseph Swain, south by Fish lots, west side house Micajah Coffin, William Ramsdell\*, James Swain\* and Francis Coleman\* to West Monomoy shores, near Pompeys.

The Joseph Swain house stands across the end of Winter street and was owned in recent years by the late Wm. Hussey Macy. It was built as a lean-to the south roof sloping down to one story, but this has been raised and made two stories. The house was erected about 1740 to 1750 by John Barnard and by him sold to Swain 1762.

The west line of the Fish Lot division was along Pine street.

The Micajah Coffin house is standing on the north-east corner of Charter street.

Francis Coleman's house was on the east side between Lyon and Jefferson.

The Ramsdell house stood on the west side at the head of Darling street where is now the house of John Appleton.

The Pompey's were colored people who lived near the junction of York and Pleasant streets.

**Pleasant Street.** North-east corner **Friends Meeting House\*** south by houses of **Walter Folger, Reuben Hussey\*, Hezekiah Russell, Molly Quinn, Nathaniel Whippey,** south and east to **Newtown Gate** by house\* of **William Cash.**

From 1790 to 1834 the south-west corner of Main and Pleasant streets was occupied by the Meeting House.

This street north of Mill street for many years has been a favorite section for residences, but the houses now standing are mostly modern structures built after the Revolution. Several have the large center chimneys and were built about 1800. On the west side next north of the corner of Mill is the Obed Macy house built at this period, and 1905 owned by Mrs. Emily W. Hollister.

The large brick house was built by Jared Coffin between 1835 and 1840.

On the east side, south of Summer, is the Folger house, the residence of the late Capt. James Wyer.

The Reuben Hussey house stood on the east side opposite the brick house of H. B. Williams.

**Plumb Lane.** Orange street at south-east corner house\* of Benjamin Glover, west between houses of David Upham Giles\*, by Timothy Jackson to Fair street near house\* of Ebenezer Barnard.

A family lived in the vicinity named Plumb for whom this street was named.

**Prison Lane.** Milk street north-east corner of Elihu Coffin house\*, west on the south side new Poor House to Grave street, near Friends Burying Ground.

This is now named Vestal street. The Jail occupies the land whereon the new poor house stood and the building above mentioned may be one of those standing on the lot in 1905.

The Elihu Coffin house stood on the north-west corner of Milk street.

On the east side near Milk street stands the house where Maria Mitchell was born. The house was built in 1790.

**Ray's Court.** North-east corner Uriah Pinkham's house\*, west by house of Daniel Black to house of John Ray.

The Pinkham house stood on the same site as the building of the Historical Society.

The house of John Ray stood on land on the south side of the Court owned in 1905 by Sidney Chase. The Court as above described did not extend to Main street, the Main street end being named Turner's Alley. The two were joined before 1830.

**Rose Lane.** Center street at south-east corner Henry Clark's house\*, west by house\* of Tristram Coffin, painter, to Tristram Gardner's land.

This Lane extends along the north side of the Methodist Chapel.

The Clark house was taken down in 1904 by Henry M. Upham, and a new building placed on the lot.

**Salem Street.** East side Old South Wharf west by the north side brick store of Shubael Barnard and north side house\* of Abner Briggs to Joseph Barker's land.

**Sea Street.** Water street between house\* of Aaron Mitchell and house of Robert Brayton to the sea shore, Brant Point near the Lighthouse.

This street is the continuation of Step Lane or Chapman Avenue, east of North Water. In the above description and also in that of Water street no distinction is made between Water and North Water, although the two are not continuous. In later years the section north of Broad is named North Water, and the other South Water street.

The house of Robert Brayton is on the north-east corner of Sea and North Water streets, and in recent years was owned by Albert Easton.

**Silver Street.** Grave street at the south side of house\* of Sarah Clasby and continuing east.

The street above described in recent years began on Milk street and extended north between house of Alexander Macy on the east and Stephen Gibbs on the west, then west to Saratoga street on north side of Lot Fisher's house. For many years the name "silver" has been applied to a street between Orange and Pleasant next south of the lower end of Fair street and the name has not been used in relation to the former way.

**School Street.** Fair street, at south-east corner Thomas Coffin, Jr., house to Pine street, on north side of Zenas Coffin's house.

The Thomas Coffin house in 1905 is owned by Hon. Thaddeus C. Defriez.

Zenas Coffin was son of Micajah and left the largest fortune ever accumulated on Nantucket. He was the father of the late Charles G. and Henry Coffin. His house stands next north of his father's on Pine street.

**South Street.** James Johnson's pond, near the cow bars east to Newtown Gate, near William Cash house.\*

James Johnson's Pond was on the west side of Orange street opposite the Asylum and crossed by the Railroad.

Wm. Cash's house was on a hill to the north and near the first Milestone.

**South Mill Street.** House of Crispus Gardner, west and south to mill of Charles or Timothy Swain, it being the Mill road.

The house of Crispus Gardner or more properly Gardiner, stands on the west side of Pleasant street, about one-eighth of a mile south of Mill street. It is a leanto, faces south and was in that location in 1745 and possibly earlier. That year it was conveyed by Jonathan Folger to his son-in-law Stephen Chase and has been owned by his descendants to the present date. Crispus Gardiner, a descendant of Lyon Gardiner of Long Island married Margaret Chase the daughter of Stephen. It was later owned by their daughter Lydia the wife of Cyrus Hussey and by the latter conveyed to their daughter Margaret Cary.

Margaret Chase's brother Reuben was the original of Cooper's Long Tom Coffin in the Pilot. Among the descendants of Crispus and Margaret Gardiner were men and women of great physical stature.

**Spring Street.** Washington street, north-west corner of store\* of Samuel Riddell, east by the north side of Barzillai Stetson's house,\* north by Paul Gardner and Son's candle factory to Whale street.

**Spruce Street.** Orange street east by south side house\* of Freeman Ellis, Uriah Bunker and Obed Bunker on Carr's Point in Newtown, and so to the Meadows.

This street was between the Asylum and the Railroad crossing.

**Summer Street.** Pleasant street, north-west corner of house\* of Simeon Russell, east by house\* of Joseph Chase and house of Barnabas Paddock to Pine street.

Joseph Chase lived where is now the Baptist church.

**Tillet Street.** Washington street, north-west corner house\* of Benjamin Mitchell, east by north side house\* of old Samuel Barker, east to Harbor.

**Trader's Lane.** Main street, north-east corner house of Samuel Barrett, south by house of Peleg Bunker to Summer street.

This is the first street east of Pleasant leading south and passes by the side of the Baptist Church.

**Turner's Alley.** Main street, north-west corner house\* of Peleg Coffin, Esq., south by west side house\* of John Howes.

This was the part of Ray's Court extending south from Main street, nearly opposite Walnut Lane. The Peleg Coffin house stood where is now the brick house of Charles

G. Coffin. Peleg Coffin was Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts 1797 to 1801. The house was devised by Josiah Barker to Peleg Coffin's wife Eunice, who was Barker's daughter, and in 1805 she sold it to Dr. Rowland Gelston, whose heirs sold it in 1831 to Charles G. Coffin, the builder of the brick house.

The small house south of Main street on the east side of Ray's Court, which has been recently taken down by Sidney Chase, in 1798 was sold by Baker Turner to John Howes. From Turner the Alley was named. Apparently in 1799 it had not been extended to Ray's Court.

**Union Street.** North-east corner land of Josiah Barker, Jr., near his house, south by west side house of Ruth Coffin, Joseph Wyer, Christopher Mitchell, David Chadwick,\* Wm. Ray, Jr., to Newtown Bridge, where it falls into Orange street.

Josiah Barker owned the land where the Masonic Building stands in 1906.

Next south of the Masonic Building is the house owned by Dr. King. Christopher Mitchell's house stood on the lot next south. The house next south now owned by Mrs. Avis Enos was owned by Seth Mitchell.

On the east side of Union is the house of Andrew M. Myrick and his father married a daughter of Christopher Mitchell.

John W. Barrett married another daughter of Mitchell and his house stands on Main street next west of Fair street.

David Chadwick's house stood at the foot of Flora street on the east side of Union.

On the west side of Union in front of Wm. Barnes Terrace is a gambrel once owned by Joseph Hamblin. It was built probably a few years before 1800.

On the east side of Union further south is another gambrel for many years owned by Isaac Austin. It was built by William Coffin soon after the Revolution. On the shore south east, Coffin built and conducted a Rope Walk that was there in 1830. The Austin house in 1906 is occupied by Wm. C. Dunham.

**Walnut Lane.** Liberty street, north-west corner old house\* of Francis Macy south to Main street, between houses\* of Francis Macy, where he lives, and of Judith Worth.

In 1745 Thomas Macy, who owned the land on both sides of Walnut Lane, conveyed the same as follows: That on east side to son Francis; that on the north-west corner of Main and Walnut Lane to son Robert; and that north with the old house to son Nathaniel.

Thomas Macy's land included the land on which stood the Burdick house on Main street and the Ewer house on Liberty.

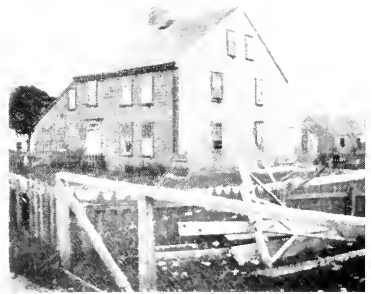
The Robert Macy lot was sold in 1774 to Andrew Worth whose widow was Judith.

Francis Macy must have had two dwellings, the old one on Liberty street since demolished and a newer house on Main street, the whole or a part of which is said to be the ell of the house now on the lot owned by the late Charles Henry Webb.

**Warren Street.** Orange street, south-east corner house\* of George Worth, west by house\* of Naomi Stratton, south of house\* of Jeremiah Coleman to Pleasant street.

This is the first street south of York connecting Pleasant and Orange.





Seth Collin House.  
George Bunker House.

Christopher Baxter House.  
Lowell House.



**Water Street.** South-west corner brick store of William Rotch, north in a crooked direction by house of Richard Mitchell,\* John Elkins,\* Jethro Mitchell,\* George Hussey,\* Richard Swain, to Chester street and North street by house\* of Francis Joy.

It is to be noted that the two streets in recent years known as South Water and North Water are here described as one continuous way, although there was a decided jog at Broad street.

The store of William Rotch is the building at the foot of Main street already described.

Jethro Mitchell's house stood at the corner of North Water and Ash streets.

In 1811 according to the Port-folio this was called Mitchell street because it was inhabited by so many people of that name.

John Elkin's house stood on the north-east corner of North Water and Broad where for many years Mrs. Judith J. Fish has conducted a boarding house.

George Hussey's house stood at the north-west corner of Step Lane, directly east of the Veranda House.

The Swain House stands next south of Davis Hall's house on the west side, the second house south of the corner of Chester street. It was built by Richard Swain about 1765.

The Hall house belonged formerly to Capt. Obed Fitch and was built about the same date as the Swain house.

**Washington.** Main street, north-east corner store or warehouse of Jonathan Burnell, south by stores or warehouses of Paul Mitchell, Christopher Mitchell, by west side store of Samuel Riddell and houses\* of Lydia Giles, Benjamin Glover, and so to Newtown Creek.

The Railroad location south of Candle street is along Washington.

**Whale Street.** Main street, north-west corner store or warehouse of Walter Folger, south by east end house\* of Abner Briggs and south by house\* of Thaddeus Waterman.

**William's Lane.** Orange street, north-east corner house\* of Jonathan Upham, west by land of Benjamin Jones, Ebenezer Swain, George Brown to Pleasant street, near lot of Nathaniel Russell in Newtown.

This is the first street west from Orange south of junction with Union street.

The Upham house stood on the south-west corner. The lane was opened in 1789.

**Weymouth Lane.** Orange street, between houses\* of Prince Coleman and Joseph Weeks, east by south side house of Thomas Varney McCleave to Union street, under the bank.

This is the first street north of Dover. The Colesworthy house in 1906 owned by S. F. Hosmer is reputed to have been built in 1755. The McCleave house was next east.

**Wharf Lane.** West end old south wharf, south-west corner Gideon and Albert Gardner's candle works, near Abner Briggs house,\* east by south side old wharf and south side of all the stores, warehouses and blacksmith shops, by the store of Peter Folger, on the old south wharf, and so down old south wharf to Salem street.

**Winter Street.** South-east corner house\* of Prince Gardner, north to Liberty street, by house\* of Walter Folger.

This street opened in 1738 and the lots on the east side comprised a region at that date called the Clay Pits, which extended nearly to Walnut Lane.

The Prince Gardner house stood on north side of Main street and the property is now owned by his descendants.

Walter Folger's house stood on the south-east corner of Winter and Liberty.

**York Street.** South-east corner house\* of Ephraim Coffin, west by house\* of Armstrong Smith to Pleasant street, southward of house\* of Joseph Allen.

This street began at Orange and extended to Pleasant.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

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During a visit to Nantucket in 1881, Mr. Henry S. Wyer took photographs of a number of old houses, several of which have now disappeared. To his courtesy and zeal is due the fact that it has been possible to present in this work pictures of the John Swain, Paddock, Abel Gardner and Coffin "Horseshoe" houses, the latter by photographic ingenuity showing as restored the north-east corner which many years ago was destroyed by fire.



# Nantucket Historical Association

INCORPORATED JULY 9, 1894.

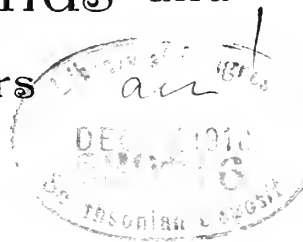
Vol. 2

Bulletin No. 6.

## Nantucket Lands and Land Owners

BY

HENRY BARNARD WORTH



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## CHAPTER XIII.

### Indian Names.

The names of places on the New England coast adopted by the Indians were not single Algonquin words according to the system of the Europeans, but were compiled according to a widely different method. The Redmen selected some prominent feature in the locality as the principal element in a descriptive phrase and this became the name of that place. If the distinguishing object was a sharp rock, the phrase name would be "At the place of the sharp-pointed rock." Therefore these names were highly descriptive and furnish a guide to their derivation.

To reach the meaning it is necessary to ascertain all the words that entered into the composition of the original phrase and several serious obstacles are encountered. In the first place the chirography of the seventeenth century is obscure and there is absolutely no assistance to be obtained from the context. Comparisons must be made between the forms of the same name written at different dates and by several men. From this it may be possible to ascertain what was the name which was used by the Indians.

Then there was at that period no uniform system of orthography. Each man spelled as he talked without regard to any standard. If the scribes were men of limited education, there was additional difficulty. If, however, the actual name as spoken by the Indians was finally recovered, the labor of analyzing it into its components comes next in order. In forming the phrase name the Redmen did not use

the whole of each constituent part but only what is called the "Root." In the analysis the highest degree of linguistic skill is demanded. Often only a small fraction of the word is used and from the fragment the whole word must be inferred. Then frequently there may be several ways in which a word may be divided. Thus the name Nantucket may be analyzed Nant-uck-et or Nan-tuck-et and widely different results would be reached. Only by trial can the correct division be proved. It is at this point that the descriptive feature in the name becomes a guide to its meaning. When the student has made all possible divisions of the word and obtained the meanings of each, then must be applied the final test to discover which finds a response in the local situation. If there is nothing in the place that confirms the meaning then one of two things is true: Either the supposed meaning is wrong or the name is in the wrong place by which is meant that it has been transferred from some other locality. If the supposed meaning of the name involves the idea of "rock" and none can be found, one of these two conclusions must follow, and generally it is the first because there is something in the records to reveal the fact of a transfer if there has been any. If as sometimes occurs there is not only one appropriate meaning but two or more, it is very difficult to prove which was intended by the Indians.

This brief outline will suggest only a faint idea of the extent and difficulty of these obstacles. If there were only some final resort to which to appeal for a settlement, the case of difficult problems might at least be solved. But no help can be obtained from native sources because the language heard by the Pilgrim and Puritan has ceased to be spoken for over a century and the Redmen had no way to preserve any written language.

Then there is no college of experts who can agree on the etymology or meanings of Indian names. In this department of historical research students differ widely in their views and opinions and those most learned are often farthest

apart in their conclusions. Occasionally there is one like Dr. Trumbull who commands universal respect. At the present time there is none whose standing makes him an authority.

When any student pursues the subject beyond the surface, he finds that there were numerous dialects even in New England, and that they differed in essential particulars. Experience Mayhew of Edgartown, one of the most proficient Indian scholars of his day, travelled in Connecticut and had to carry an interpreter with him, as he could not converse in the dialects west of Rhode Island. The only printed Dictionary is based on the dialect of Indians at Natick, and this must be used in the investigation of Nantucket names because no other is available.

When Thomas Mayhew in 1659 sold Nantucket to the men from Massachusetts Bay, none of them were acquainted with the Indian language. For more than a decade the Mayhews had been giving the subject close attention and had acquired familiarity with the Redmen and their customs and manners. The younger Mayhew had become a skillful preacher to the Indians, and some of his descendants, notably the one named "Experience," became famous as a missionary at the Vineyard. During a part of this period before 1659 Peter Folger was a resident at Edgartown and had acquired such knowledge of the Indian tongue that he was qualified as an interpreter. It was arranged that he should become one of the Nantucket company to assist them in their relations with the Redmen. Reference has heretofore been made to his skill in dealing with the natives. During the first twenty years after the settlement Folger was the strong man who controlled and managed the Nantucket Indians. He had a son and grandson, each named Eleazer, who succeeded him in the same line. These three men kept a great portion of the early records, and all that has been preserved was written by them. While the chirography is not always clear and the orthography not uniform, yet as far as they committed to writing any fragment of the Algonquin language, it can be

understood with as great certainty as elsewhere in New England. Beside the place names appearing in land transfers there are several deeds written in the Indian language, and some of them accompanied by translations. Then a few names are given in the documents to be found in chapters 7 and 8 of this work.

The last resident of Nantucket who was acquainted with the Indian language was Zaccheus Macy who died before 1800. He prepared a valuable paper on the Natives of Nantucket for the Massachusetts Historical Society and this contained some names with meanings.

From all these sources, the place names have been collected and are included in the following list.

It is not expected that the derivations and meanings given herein, will be accepted without dispute nor that different results may not finally be established. Owing to the interest in Indian names and the study that is now directed towards this branch of history, some considerable advance is likely to be accomplished in the future and in that state of information, changes are likely to occur which will conform to the requirements of critical analysis.

The name "Nantucket" has been the subject of considerable discussion and conjecture, and it has not escaped the usual efforts of the humorist. The folk-lore of New England includes the story of the man who had two daughters, Martha and Nancy and to one he gave the largest of the Islands which was named "Marthas Vineyard" and as to the other "Nancy took it." This highly pleasing romance has been current for generations and by a considerable portion of the people has been accepted as actual History. In the mean time there have been attempts to explain the name and some have suggested that it was of Norse origin, but the form clearly marks it as Algonquin. The first explorers, omitted to chronicle much about the Island and did not record its name. About 1616, Capt. Adrion Block explored the coast eastward from New Amsterdam to the end of Cape Cod and a map was prepared known as DaLaet's and dated

1630. Here is given the earliest known name of the Island as Natoeke or Natoeks, in reality the same name. In a confirming grant signed by Ferdinand Georges, the name is given Nautican which some have suspected was a latinized variation of Natoeke. In the Royal grant to Mayhew in 1641, the modern name of Nantucket for the first time appears. All other forms of the name are various methods of spelling one of these three, which all scholars now agree to be derived from the same Indian place name. Divested of unessential letters and terminations these three early forms are thus presented: Natoek, Nautic and Natuek. The first and third are identical and the second will be of value for purposes of comparison. It is possible to analyze this name into two sets of Roots thus: "Na-tuek" or "Nat-uek" and two widely different meanings will result. It has also occurred that each part has been derived from a different Algonquin word and this has given rise to a variety of explanations. In 1881 Alexander Starbuck wrote that he had submitted the name to a great scholar in this branch of History who had stated that the name might have the same meaning as Natick, "the place of hills." Concerning this derivation there are several objections. In the first place the meaning is not apt. This Island is not hilly to the extent of Marthas Vineyard or any part of the Mainland. It is no more "the place of hills," than the place of "Rivers." Every section of coast in New England has an uneven surface but this does not entitle them to such designation. But the chief obstacle is that the name "Natick" may not mean "a place of hills." Since the death of that eminent Algonquin scholar, Dr. J. H. Trumbull, the leading authority in Indian place names in the North Atlantic states has been Dr. W. W. Tooker of Sag Harbor, Long Island. In an essay on the name "Natick," Dr. Tooker reviews all other explanations, rejects the "Hill" interpretation and concludes the meaning to be "the place of our search," a derivation which can have no historical application to Nantucket.

Another student suggested that the word might be allied to Pawtucket, "the place of the falls," referring to the surf thundering on the shore. This however is merely fanciful.

Dr. Tooker himself has recently written "that the analysis might be "Na-tuck," meaning "a neck of trees." But this cannot be considered descriptive of the Island. Aside from the "tree" idea, which may be a fact, there can be no significance in calling this Island a "Neck"; nor is the derivation fortified by suggesting that "Great Point" was originally a wooded neck and this circumstance may have given the name to the whole Island. A simpler and more direct meaning must have been intended.

The salient feature about Nantucket is that it is an island a great way or far off at sea, and if the etymology would give that derivation, it would meet local and linguistic requirements. Noadt and Nauwot, have exactly that signification. Nawatick, meaning "far off at sea," is singularly close in form to both Natoke and Nautic. Unless therefore it is established that there is some insuperable objection to the derivation, it seems to be natural and according to the Indian method to derive the name Nat-ock-et—"at the land far away or far off at sea."

**Acemy or Acomat**, accompanying the first deed from the Sachems to the English, June 20, 1659, was a plan showing this name as applying to the Neck extending south from the Swamp and partly enclosed by the hook formation of Hummock Pond. The name was later applied to the pond. It was derived from Ongkomaë, meaning "on the other side" or "over the water."

**Aqunoonogqutut**. One of the bounds of the territory of Niconoose, mentioned in his will, on page 161 of this work, and translated by Experience Mayhew "the hole where a stone stands."

**Ahapahant or Ahapachonsett**. The land on the west side of Squam Pond, mentioned in a deed from Niconoose in 1667. In this region was one of the principal villages of the Indians.

**Aquidness.** In 1687 Stephen Hussey purchased "a Neck called Aquidness." It was located east of Shimmoo and in modern times has been called Abraham's Point. While the form of the name closely resembles Aquidneck; which is said to mean "at the Island," its signification must be very different. The above name is closely allied to Aquitnet or its abbreviated form Quidnet and means "at the extremity of" or "at the point."

**Bocochico.** In 1744 the proprietors laid out the section adjoining the harbor, bounded by Main, Federal and Broad Streets. Its derivation may be "Po-kutche-co," meaning "next to the harbor."

**Bogue.** The end of Coatue Peninsula, across the harbor entrance from Brant Point.

**Cupaum.** Before 1700, the Pond north-west of the water works was open to the sea and called Cuppaum Harbor. The name means "an inclosed place."

**Chappanacoy.** An unidentified region near the meadows at Ashimmo.

**Chapomis and Chappapemiset.** It was near South Shore and between Surfside and Tom Never's Head. 1691 the Sachem to the town land bounded by "the great valley at Choppapemisset."

**Coatue or Coweightuet.** In 1660 conveyed by the Sachem to Edward Starbuck. In 1688 an order was adopted by the proprietors "that no pines should be cut down and carried away from Coatue." The name is derived from "Cowa-tuck" meaning "at the pine woods." This point was also designated as Nauma, which Z. Macy said meant "Long Point."

**Consue.** The meadows at the south end of Union Street. In 1721, Negro Africa, a slave of Wm. Gayer, lived in this locality. Owing to the fact that this name is identical in form with the Indian word meaning "pickerel," some explanation is required why this is not the meaning. It is a principle that if the name of an animal is used, there must also be something in the place name to show the relation of

the animal to that locality; also the name must show whether it relates to water, land, or some other object. This name does neither. Nor is there any "pickerel" in the region. The name may be derived from "Quan-Saupe," meaning "a long miry place," referring to the extensive bogs.

**Coskata.** The section of Great Point north of Wauwinnet, near the pond of the same name, where Macy said "are some woods." The word may be derived from "Coshkagtuck," meaning "at the broad woods."

**Cotackta.** A section southwest from Wauwisset where there is a large rock.

**Hash Kinnet-chaopket.** A bound of the territory of Nicanoose east of Polpis.

**Hummock.** The great Pond two miles west from the town, at first called Acomat. The neck partly inclosed by the south end was called Namahumake. Probably the modern name of the Pond came from this.

**Kachkesset.** A region near the south shore bordering on the west side of Hummock Pond, where the homesteads of Richard and John Swain were first located. The name is derived from Kitchessik and means "at the beginning."

**Maddaket** or **Mattaket.** The region at the west end of the Island. Elsewhere in several instances this name means "Bad land," but why this should be applied here is not clear, as there are other places where Nantucket lands are equally as valueless.

**Mardadpoquehy.** A swampy slow or pond by the road near Mascotuck at Polpis.

**Mashquaponitib.** Stated in 1668 in the will of Niconoose to be one of the bounds of his territory.

**Masquetuck** or **Mascotuck.** A neck of land retained by Thomas Mayhew when he sold the Island of Nantucket. It is on the west side of Polpis Harbor. The name originally referred to the brook which flows into the Harbor at this point and means "Reed River." The Reeds or Rushes were much prized by the Indians for weaving into mats. The



word meaning "Reed" is used in many forms in place names.

**Masquopack.** A creek that runs through Pocomo Meadows. The name is derived from "Masqu-avecup-ack" and means "Reed Creek Land."

**Mattaquitcham.** A pond at south shore, east from Surf Side. In 1692 the Sachem conveyed to the Town "land at west side of Mattaquitcham Pond."

**Mekinnoowake.** In the will of Wauwinet given as one of the bounds of his lands.

**Miacomet.** The Pond at south shore, west from Surf Side. Derived from "Maayeakomuk," meaning "the Meeting House."

**Mioxes.** Two small ponds west from Surf Side. The name has the same derivation as Miacomet, and means "at the small Meeting Place."

**Mona.** The region on the Seconset Road south of the second milestone. 1692 the Sachem to the Town, land one bound of which was "the well on Mona." The name is derived from a word meaning "deep" and may refer to said well.

**Monomoy.** As originally applied, it meant the region around the creeks northward from the asylum. The name may be derived from two words meaning "deep-black" or "black soil" and refer to the black, miry soil in the locality.

**Muskeget,** on DeLaet's Map, **Kotget.** The westernmost island of the Nantucket group. It is also spelled Moskeiket.

**Nanahumacke.** The Neck partly inclosed by the south end of Hummock Pond, and from which the pond was named.

**Nashawomank.** A neck of upland extending into a swamp near Nobottom Pond. Derived from "Nashau-komuck," and means "an inclosed place in the midst of the swamp."

**Nashayte.** Name of Swain's Neck at Polpis, and derived from "Nashua-tuck," and means the "tract between two tidal streams," and refers to the land between the two branches of Polpis Harbor.

**Nauma.** Another name of Coatue, and according to Z. Macy means "the Long Point."

**Nebadier** or **Napaneah.** A pond east of Surf Side and a bound in 1668 between the territories of the Sachems.

**Notpque.** Smiths Point at the west end of the Island. It means "the point farthest away." The word "Noapogs," meaning the "far off people," was applied to residents of the Vineyard and the term was abbreviated to Noapx. At one time there were four men named Peter Coffin, one of whom lived at Edgartown. In the records he is named Peter Nope.

**Orkawa.** The section west from Sankaty and the location of the largest Indian Village on the Island and of one of their Meeting Houses. In other parts of New England the name appears as Agawam.

**Ougquahquam.** A flaggy marsh near some rocks in the meadows at Shimmoo.

**Pasocha.** At the west edge of the great Valley at Chop-pemeset. It means "a place separated."

**Penetahpah.** The next great creek above Ashimmo.

**Popsquatchet.** Macy says "the Hills where our three mills now stand." The name seems to mean "Rocky Hill."

**Pochick.** So far as known, first applied to the shoal a mile distant from the shore at Siasconset; later it refers to the bluff south of the village. See Sankaty.

**Pocomo.** The land forming the east side of Polpis Harbor. The same name in Connecticut translated "a clear fishing place or a round fishing place."

**Pocoy.** The region near south shore, east of Hummock Pond. Derived from "Pohki," meaning "clear, open."

**Polpis.** The village midway between the Town and Wauwinet. Originally the name was spelled "Poatpes" and then "Podpis." The name means "a branching harbor or cove."

**Pquaopuackus.** An open tract or island in Gibbs Swamp.

**Quaise.** Z. Macy writes, "the famous neck of land called Quaise or Masquotuek which in English signifies Reed

Land." This meaning applies to the second name. Quaise probably comes from "Uhquae," and means "at the end or extremity of," and refers to the point.

**Quanata.** The hill that extends from Main Street, on the east side of Orange, southerly to Newtown. It means "the long hill."

**Quidnet** or **Aquitnet.** The region south of Wauwinet "where the fishing stages" are located. See Aquidness.

**Sacacha.** In 1682 in a deed to Richard Gardner "where his stage stands at Sisackachat." Later the name was applied to the Pond. If the name is derived from "Seseckadehu," it may mean Rattlesnake Hill. There was a hill with that name at Polpis. If this derivation is correct, it refers to a situation different from the present for there are no rattlesnakes on the Island and none of any variety at Sacacha.

**Sankaty.** The hill north of Siasconset on which is the lighthouse. In 1691 the Sachem sold to the Town, land "between old Siasconset and Sanckatank." The name Sankata may be derived from "Sanquiadene," meaning "cool hill."

Z. Macy writes this region was also named Naphcheay which signifies "round the Head." This name is derived from "Neppi-check-oy," and means "on the other side of Pochick." This becomes important in the discussion of Pochick.

**Seanakonket.** In 1668 a bound of Sachems near Toupe Pond at south shore.

**Shawkemo.** 1673 John Gardner purchased meadow east of the creek called "Shawkemo." Macy wrote "Showaucamor" signifies the "middle field of land."

**Shimmoo** or **Ashimmo.** In 1668 one bound between the Sachems was "the spring at Shimmo." In the Proprietors Records in 1772 it is "Ashimmo." The name means "a spring."

**Siasconsett.** In the Sachem deed in 1691 the land began "at a great stone near the bank at Old Siasconset, then

north to Sauckatank." In 1755 "Siasconset Roots" were laid out. In the swampy lands southwest, there grew a species of ground nuts which were pulled up and eaten by the Indians. These were the Roots. The locality of Siasconset was near the bank at the site of the present village. Macy in his essay refers to different localities in this region but does not give any meaning to this name. The object described has the unusual word "old" preceding it which must have considerable significance because it is rare to find an English adjective modifying an Indian place name. The termination "set," meaning "near" prevents the word being the name of a person. The object had grown "old" since it had first become the feature marking the spot. The problem is to ascertain that distinguishing mark. There is nothing in the name that could denote a house or other structure or a tree. Probably the first syllable "Si" is derived from the word "Missi" meaning "great," the first syllable having been dropped "askon" is a word meaning "horn or bone." It is no unusual sight along the shores of southern New England to observe the massive bones of whales. That there were frequently bodies of whales cast on shore at Nantucket is apparent from the regulations on page 137. The word "old" as applied to such an object would be appropriate. So unless a different analysis can be established, the derivation would be, "Missi-askon-sett." meaning "near the great bone."

**Squam.** It is an abbreviated form of Wunnisquam which was used in 1668 in the description of the lands of Nicanoose, and in 1690 in the deed to Wm. Bunker. The name denotes "at the top of the Rock."

**Squotesit.** A locality not identified, where in 1674 was one of the three Indian Meeting Houses.

**Stirvakenishoos.** In 1678 one of the bounds of "Masquetuck was the spring under the Rattlesnake Hill, commonly called Stirvakenishoos."

**Tautemeo.** The name given to the south end of Hummock Pond. Z. Macy writes "the West Sea called Tautemeo which we call Hummock Pond."

**Tawnatpeinse.** A locality near Washaman's Island in the vicinity of No Bottom Pond.

**Tetaukimmo.** A place north of the second milestone on the Siasconset Road. Derived from "Toh-ke-kom," meaning "a spring."

**Toupche.** A small pond three miles west from Tom Nevens Head, near the south shore.

**Tuckanuck.** The island next west of Nantucket. In 1630 the name is given on DaLaet's Map as Petoekenock, which means "a round cake of Bread." Macy translates it "a loaf of Bread."

**Wamasquid.** An unidentified locality, where in 1674 there was an Indian Meeting House.

**Wannacomet.** The region on the north side of the Island, east of the water works, conveyed by this name by the Indians in 1664. Macy used the form "Watercomet," which he translated "Pond Field," but the original name was derived from a different Root and meant "fine or beautiful field."

**Wauwinet.** The name given in modern times to the place at the head of the Harbor. It was never used by the Indians as a place name. Wauwinet was one of the early Sachems whose territory included this locality. The name means "I testify" or in deeds where it is always used "Witness my hand."

**Weequodnoy.** The strip of land between Sacacha Pond and the ocean.

**Weeweder.** A pond near Surf Side at south shore. Translated by Macy "a pair of horns," alluding to the shape of the pond.

**Wequitaquage.** Region at head of Hummock Pond; a bound in 1660 in the Sachem deed to the settlers. A similar name in Connecticut has been translated "at the head of a tidal River." How this can find any local corroboration is not clear unless it relates to a period when Hummock Pond was an arm of the sea.

**Wesquo.** The section in the present town north of Main

Street. In 1664 Lily Pond was called Wesquo Pond. Z. Macy translates it "White Rock," the tradition being that there was somewhere in the region a prominent quartz boulder. In 1710, in deeds to Samuel Gardner, the land was at a place called "the White Rock" and in 1722 a bound was "at a rock in the side of a hill commonly called the White Rock." The name is derived from "Wohsumoc-qussuk," and means "a bright stone."

## CHAPTER XIV.

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### Wills and Estates.

The records in the Probate Office commence in 1706, when James Coffin was appointed Judge and Eleazer Folger, Register of Probate. But there are earlier transactions recorded in the books in the Registry of Deeds. As explained in chapter on the Courts of Nantucket, there must have been some crude judicial system before 1671, but if so no records have been preserved. When the Decree of Lovelace established a method of electing judges, Richard Gardner was chosen, and then in 1671 begins the earliest record that has been preserved, and this is in Book 2 in the Registry of Deeds. It contains all transactions down to 1706, when, at the death of Captain John Gardner, the Probate Department was separated from the others and its proceedings kept in distinct books. But no probate records under the old system appear before 1680. Captain John Gardner was commissioned by Governor Andros, November 10, 1680, as Chief Justice, and he held the office until his death in 1706.

Scattered through Book 2 in the Registry of Deeds are fragmentary items relating to estates of deceased persons, but considering the number of inhabitants and the amount of property they had, it seems certain that all proceedings were not recorded. There was no register and some of the records are in the illegible chirography of Captain Gardner. In one case where a release was given by Jedediah and Abigail Fitch, there is reference to a will that it not recorded. The following is a list of what appears in these records:

March 3, 1680-81. Inventory of estate of Nathaniel Wyer showing an estate of £36, including a house and ten acres of land valued at £5. "an old bibell and 5 other books." His widow, Sarah, was appointed administratrix.

August, 1681. Administration on estate of Benjamin Austin, valued at £21, and ordered distributed to Brothers Thomas and Nathaniel and Sisters Deborah Coffin and Mary Gardner.

November 29, 1681. Administration on estate of Tristram Coffin granted to sons, James, John and Stephen. Estate later given to widow, Dionis.

August 1, 1682. Administration on estate of Thomas Macy granted to his son John. The estate was valued at £71, of which about one-half was land and the rest cattle.

At the same date, Richard Swain was appointed administrator of the estate of his father Richard, and Tobiah Coleman of the estate of his father Thomas.

December 5, 1682. Probated will of Robert Barnard, of which his widow Joan was probably executrix, but there is no record of the contents of the will.

Scrupulous attention was given to the selection in these cases of four appraisers. Nathaniel Barnard, Stephen Coffin, Thomas Look and Richard Swain seemed to be in favor with the court, but the inventories were not recorded.

August 23, 1683. Sarah Wyer had become incapable of administering, so John Swain, her son-in-law, was appointed in her behalf, but of what estate the record is silent, but probably of Nathaniel Wyer.

March 18, 1688-89. Sarah Gardner, widow of Richard Gardner, Sr., administratrix on his estate.

August 12, 1690. Administration on estate of Joseph Coleman granted to William Bunker and Stephen Coffin.

May, 1692. Administration on estate of John Walsh granted to Nathaniel Starbuck.

The foregoing comprise all known records of Probate Proceedings before 1706, which indicates that there must have been others not preserved. At that period there must



have been more than eight estates settled in court in twenty-six years.

From 1706 to the date of the Revolution the Judges of Probate were James Coffin, Richard Gardner, George Bunker, George Gardner, Jeremiah Gardner, Grafton Gardner, Jethro Hussey.

Eleazer Folger was Register, 1706-1754, and his successor was Frederick Folger.

After the establishment of a District Court of Probate, with judge and register, the records are well kept and complete, but no original papers have been preserved before the Revolution.

A descriptive index of the Probate Records down to the Revolutionary War will now be presented, but these items are not in any sense copies. The purpose of the schedule being to furnish materials in constructing genealogies, it was intended to include the names and relations of all persons interested and such dates as the records contain, but practically the whole substance of wills and inventories has been omitted. It will, however, indicate the general subjects to be found in the Probate Office, but for full and complete details, reference must be had to the original records.

September 27, 1706. Hannah Coffin, widow of Tristram Coffin, administratrix of his estate. His heirs were Stephen Coffin, Jr., brother; Jedidah Fitch, sister. In the inventory were mentioned whalebone, sheep and a silver cup.

October 4, 1706. Nathaniel Starbuck, Jr., blacksmith, and Nathaniel Barnard, Jr., administrators of the estate of Peter Coffin.

October 11, 1706. Jedidiah Fitch of New London, mariner, Jethro Coffin and George Gardner, appointed administrators of the estate of Peter Coffin.

1706. Will of Edward Cartwright was probated and the witnesses were William Gayer, Richard Gardner and Ann Bunker. To his wife Elizabeth he devised one-half of his house for life, and his daughters, Susannah and Mary, were

to have forty shillings the day each was married. His lands at Pocomo, where his house stood, was given equally to his three sons, Nicholas, Sampson and Edward. Will dated August 28, 1705.

October 2, 1706. The will of Captain John Gardner probated. He signed by his mark, being probably in feeble health, in the presence of William Gayer, James Coffin, William Worth and Eleazer Folger. To his daughters, Priscilla Arthur, Rachel Gardner, Ann Coffin, Mehitable Dawes, pecuniary legacies. To daughters Mary Coffin and Ruth Coffin, land at Marthas Vineyard. To grandsons, Jeremiah and Nathaniel Gardner, legacies of money. His house, lands and one-eighth of the water mill in Salem to his grandson George. To wife Priscilla, a life estate in all his lands, and at her death all lands and "housing" on Nantucket to son George. His widow was named as executrix, and after her his son George, and he provided that James Coffin and his cousin Samuel Gardner and Richard Gardner should be assistants. Will dated December 2, 1705.

June 19, 1707. Probated will of Peter Folger, the witnesses being Richard Gardner, George Bunker, George Gardner and Joseph Marshall. The use of the entire estate was given to his widow Judith for her life, and then, after pecuniary legacies to daughters Anna Keziah, Eunice and Mary, on the day of their marriage, all the real estate to son Daniel. The widow was appointed executrix, with the assistance of "my unkle Nathaniel Gardner and brother-in-law Stephen Coffin, Jr." Will was dated February 24, 1707.

September 27, 1706. Stephen Coffin, Jr., was appointed guardian of Eunice Coffin, orphan daughter of Peter Coffin, and Jethro Starbuck was appointed guardian of Jemima, the daughter of Peter Coffin.

A release given by Abigail Fitch and her husband Jedidiah to Nathaniel Barnard, dated February 3, 1708, recited, that Peter Coffin died November, 1699, leaving considerable estate to his wife Elizabeth and her four children, Tristram, Abigail, Eunice and Jemima. But the will was disallowed

by John Gardner, Esq., then Judge of Probate, and the widow was appointed administratrix. She married Nathaniel Barnard December 2, 1702, before any settlement had been made of the estate of her first husband, "which by the death of John Gardner, Esq., was rendered impossible."; she, the said Elizabeth, dying before any other person could be appointed Judge of Probate, and four days after the death of Tristram Coffin, only son of Peter, who a little before his death had married Hannah Brown of Nantucket, which made the settlement still more difficult; before the decease of Elizabeth, Jedidiah Fitch had married Abigail, the oldest daughter of Peter Coffin. Hannah, the widow of the brother Tristram, is now wife of Jonathan Pinkham.

October 24, 1710. Will of William Gayer admitted to probate on the testimony of Richard Gardner, Eleazer Folger, Jr., Jabez Bunker, Eunice Gardner and Judith Gardner. To his house-keeper, Patience Foot, a house and lot for life, and "to Africa, a negro once my servant," the east chamber of my now dwelling house and one-half of the leanto for life. To my son William, if he shall ever come hither again, one whole shore of Nantucket. To my daughters, Damaris Coffin and Dorcas Starbuck, land I had from my father-in-law, Edward Starbuck. Dated September 21, 1710.

[Note. The son never appeared and the rest of the property was treated as their own by the two daughters.] His tryhouse mentioned.

August 5, 1712. Probated the will of William Bunker, the witnesses being Joseph and Benjamin Swain and Nathan and Eleazer Folger, Jr. "My sons George and Jonathan being by me already advanced," received only small legacies. To his wife Mary the "west end of my house she lives in for life." To son Benjamin "my house and lot." To daughters Jane Bunker, Ann Paddock, Abigail and Mary Bunker, small legacies. Rest of property to sons Jabez, Thomas and Peleg. Dated June 22, 1712.

May 15, 1713. Will of Nathaniel Gardner was probated by the testimony of John Coleman, Jr., Jethro and Dorcas Starbuck and Priscilla Coleman. Only persons named were son Ebenezer and his oldest daughter, Hannah Bunker, and there was mentioned a younger daughter who had been brought up by Hannah Bunker. Dated November 18, 1710. Personal estate valued at £484, which was distributed to children Ebenezer, Peleg, Nathaniel, Andrew, Abel, Hannah Bunker, Judith Barnard, Margaret Gardner and Susannah Gardner. Inventory mentioned great Bible, linen, needles and knives from London, quadrant and Gunter's scale, shoemaker's tools, books, silver spoons and silver cup and money scales.

January 27, 1717-18. The will of John Swain was probated. The witnesses were William Worth, John Folger, Robert Long and Moses Giles. Pecuniary legacies were given to Mary Mason, daughters Sarah, Hannah, Patience and son Stephen, and the balance of his estate to sons John, Joseph, Benjamin, and daughter Elizabeth Sevalle. Dated February 9, 1714-15. His estate, £310, included a silver tankard, Bible, chiney platter, and a fashionable table.

August 20, 1715. Joanna Coleman, widow of John, appointed administratrix of his estate. The heirs were Thomas, Isaac, Jeremiah, Solomon, John, Benjamin, Phebe Cathcart and Abigail Tisdale.

March 26, 1716. John Macy had died intestate and his children divided his real estate. Thomas Macy had the dwelling house and the others were Richard Jabez, Sarah Barnard, Deborah Russell, Bethia Coffin. A daughter, Mary Coleman, had died, and her daughter Abigail took her part.

May 13, 1718. Will of Stephen Hussey probated. "To avoid contests and janglings, I have made many wills heretofore which I hereby declare null and void, and this is my last will." To my wife Martha my property for life; and a negro woman named Sarah, and after her to my sons George and Sylvanus. To my son Sylvanus, a negro boy named Mark, and to my daughter Teodate, a negro girl

Dorothy. "My law books to my son Bachelor for the use of his son Stephen." To daughters Mary Worth, Puella Gorham, and Abigail Howes, pecuniary legacies. Dated 5 mo. 17. 1716. The witnesses were Barnabas Gardner, Richard Swain, Richard Macy, William Worth and Ruth Gardner.

May 13, 1718. Will of Deborah Coffin of Edgartown probated, on testimony of Stephen, John and Jonathan Coffin and Eleazer Folger. To son Tristram, lands in New Hampshire. To daughter Hannah Gardner, a brass kettle. To daughter Deborah Macy, my looking glass, two pairs of gold buttons and a silver bodkin. Dated March 4, 1718.

June 11, 1718. Will of Nathaniel Barnard probated. Witnesses were Joseph Coffin, Edward Allen, Benjamin Trott and Eleazer Folger. To my grandson Nathaniel Barnard, the land at Wesco that I had from my father-in-law, Robert Barnard. To sons John and Stephen, land at Wesco and other estate to children Nathaniel, Benjamin, Ebenezer, Mary Folger, Sarah Currier, Eleanor Coffin, Abigail Chase, and granddaughter Experience Ellis. Dated April 7, 1718.

July 11, 1718. Property of Eleazer Folger, deceased, divided between Eleazer, Nathan, Sarah Odar, Mary Arthur.

September 11, 1718. Judith Barnard, widow of Nathaniel Barnard, appointed administratrix of his estate, valued at £405, including a chafing dish, lanthorn, drying pan, one Beacor and book.

January 22, 1719. Will of Richard Pinkham probated. Witnesses Hannah Bunker, Abigail Fitch, Lydia Long. To wife Mary, his estate for life. Daughter Deborah Macy, only child named. Dated April 28, 1718.

December 7, 1728. Nathaniel Chase appointed guardian of Peter Barnard, fifteen years old.

December 27, 1718. Nathaniel Barnard had left real estate worth £2,460, and the same went to widow Judith, who had married a Wilcox, and four children, Peter Barnard, Dorcas Barney, wife of Jacob, Elizabeth, and Nathaniel Barnard.

August 29, 1719. Will of Nathaniel Starbuck probated. Witnesses Thomas Macy, Thomas Clark, William Stratton, John Macy. Will dated 4 mo. 14, 1716, when his wife Mary was alive, and a codicil dated 9 mo. 20, 1717, after her decease. Pecuniary legacies given to daughters Eunice Gardner, Priscilla Coleman, Hepsibah Hathaway, and the children of two deceased daughters, Mary Gardner and Elizabeth Barnard. His real estate was given to his sons, Barnabas, Nathaniel and Jethro.

October 13, 1719. Administration on estate of Joseph Coffin to his widow Bethia, and to Thomas Macy. Estate valued at £654, and in 1726 had become £1,237, and was then distributed to seven children, of whom three were sons. Guardians were appointed for Micah Coffin, 16; Hezekiah, 14; Miriam, Jedidah and Mary Coffin. The estate included a silver porringer, watch, chafin-dish and a negro boy.

December 11, 1719. Will of Jonathan Worth probated on testimony of William Stratton, George Brown, Edward Cartwright and Eleazer Folger. To wife Mary, the house for life and then to son John. Other lands to sons Ezekiel and Christopher.

August 12, 1720. Will of James Coffin probated. Witnesses Thomas, John and Richard Macy. Negro servant Hagar to Daughter Mary Gardner, and after her to son John; also great silver tankard. Pecuniary legacies to sons Nathaniel, John, Ebenezer and children of his deceased son Joseph. Real estate on Nantucket and Tuckanuck to sons James, Jonathan and grandsons Zacheus, Hezekiah and Micah. His lands at Salisbury and Dover to daughters Mary Gardner, Dinah Starbuck, Deborah Bunker, Elizabeth Bunker, Ruth Gardner and the children of my daughter Abigail Gardner.

October 12, 1720. Nathan Folger appointed administrator of the estate of John Arthur Cardwainer.

September 13, 1721. Will of Jonathan Bunker probated. Witnessed by George Hussey, Jabez Bunker, Shubael Pinkham. To wife Mary, house for life and then to son James.

Money legacies to daughters Lydia Coffin, Ruth Coffin, Patience, Abigail and Judith. Other estate to sons Zachariah, Simeon, George and James.

September 23, 1721. Administration was granted on estate of Thomas Bunker, to George, Peleg and Jabez Bunker. It was valued at £1,000. It was divided between Mary Bunker, mother of deceased, George Bunker, Peleg Bunker, Jabez Bunker, Ann Paddock, Jane Wodson, Abigail Pinkham, Mary Coffin and the children of Jonathan and Benjamin Bunker, both deceased. In this estate were mentioned an Indian boy and girl, book of curiosities, old Bible, nine leafed table, quarles emblems, shoe buckles, brass chafing dish.

November 16, 1722. Elizabeth Bunker was appointed guardian of her younger children and Deborah Bunker of her children, none of whom were named on account of property which had come from estate of Thomas Bunker.

December 12, 1722. Nathan Folger was appointed guardian of Thomas Arthur and Persis Arthur, under 14, and in July, 1728, of Stephen, and May, 1728, of Priscilla, all children of John Arthur.

July 6, 1723. Jonathan Coffin administrator of estate of Nathan Skiff, valued at £188. The estate went to his mother, Sarah Skiff, and five sisters, Sarah Long; Patience Swain, Hannah Daggett, Mary Joyes, Beulah Bartholomew.

August 24, 1723. Damaris Coffin, widow of Nathaniel, appointed administratrix of his estate. In the schedule of property were great Bible, a dictionary, a great oval table, clock, great looking glass, 81 ounces of plate, negro George £50, Philis £42, and Sabina £15. Entire real estate £800.

The estate in 1729 was distributed to children Charles, Benjamin, William, Doreas Solcy, Christian, Lydia and Gayer.

November 14, 1723. Will of James Gardner probated. To wife Mary, house for life, and pecuniary legacies to daughters Elizabeth Gorham and Mehitable Gardner. The son Samuel "was sufficiently advanced." Residue of estate

to sons Jethro, Barnabas, Jonathan and James. The witnesses were Nathan Pease, William Smith, Shubael and Eleazer Folger.

January 28, 1723. Matthew Jenkins was appointed guardian of Eleazer, minor child of John Arthur.

July 10, 1724. Will of Mary Coffin probated. Witnesses, Nathaniel Starbuck, Eliphalet Smith, Jedidiah and Peter Fitch. Her son Stephen was executor. To daughters Dinah Norton, Judith Wilcox, Susannah Bunker, Anna Gardner and grandson Daniel Coffin, land that was given to me by my father-in-law Richard Swain. The father and grandfather of these daughters were still living.

November 11, 1724. Will of William Worth probated on testimony of witnesses Nathan Folger, George, Deborah and Priscilla Bunker. To wife Damaris, house for life; also silver cup, great iron pot and middle brass kettle. Residue to son John.

December 28, 1724. Dinah Coffin, widow of Elisha, appointed administrator of his estate. She later married a Williams.

May 12, 1725. Will of Stephen Coffin probated. Witnesses, Nathaniel Starbuck, Eleazer Folger, Joseph Meader, Martha Hussey and Jabez Macy. To wife Experience, one half of estate for life, including fishing and whaling voyages on Nantucket shoals. To son Shubael, land that I bought of my father-in-law Thomas Look, and other lands to son Zephaniah. To daughters Hephzibah and Dinah, land at Quaise.

July 10, 1727-'28. Will of Matthew Hanlin, seafaring man, probated. To Lydia Coffin, my watch. To Hannah Covill of Chatham, Humphrey Ellis and Jonathan Galley, rest of his property.

July 17, 1728. Will of John Trott, weaver, probated. Estate for life to wife Ann. It was uncertain whether sons James and Joseph were living. Pecuniary legacies to daughters Tabitha, Elizabeth, Rachel Mary, Abigail and Priscilla, lands in New Hampshire. To son John and to son Benjamin, lands at Nantucket.



July 17, 1728. Will of Richard Gardner probated. To daughters Miriam and Lydia Coffin and granddaughter Ruth Gardner, £150 each. Residue to sons Joseph, Solomon, Benjamin and Peter.

Oct. 8, 1728. Ruth Coffin widow of George, appointed administratrix of his estate valued at 1230£. Before Feb. 1729 the widow had married an Upham. The estate went to widow and three minor daughters of the deceased under 14 not named. The inventory scheduled Coles dictionary, clock, silver tankard, cups and spoons, oxenbrigs, sheets, napkins and table cloths, a clock reel, ½ of sloop Ruby 170£. and cash 236£, gold buttons and Bible.

Dec. 7, 1728. Ebenezer Gardner appointed administrator of estate of Africa a free negro, valued at 102£. In his estate was a Bible and other books and a compass.

Mar. 14, 1728. Hepsibah Smith, widow of Eliphalet, administratrix of his estate.

Sept. 2, 1729. Keturah Arthur administratrix of estate of Eunice Arthur, single woman. Estate to go to her brothers and sisters.

Dec. 18, 1729. Mercy Coffin, widow of Princee, administratrix of his estate, valued at 420£. Only children were two minor daughters who were placed under guardianship Feb. 7, 1746, and they were Hamah and Mary.

Oct. 13, 1729. Mary Gardner, widow of Nathaniel, administratrix of his estate. She later married a Coleman. Inventory included 7 pewter porringers, silver cup, spoons, buckles, snuff box, part of Sloop Kingfisher, and a Negro boy. The estate went to widow and two children, Nathaniel and Mary, both under 14.

July 6, 1730. Will of Peleg Bunker probated. To wife Susannah, house for life and then to son William. Other real estate to sons Uriah and Johnathan. Legacies to daughters Priscilla, Mary, Elizabeth, Christian, Judith Coffin, Dinah Williams and Hepsabeth Smith.

Jan. 13, 1730. Will of Ebenezer Coffin probated. To wife Eleanor all estate for life. His real estate according

to his own statement was worth as follows: Nantucket 1200£; Tuckanuck 500£ and Boston 300£. This he devises to his children Cromwell, Alexander, Valentine, Joseph, Benjamin, Love, Jane and the children of son Prince, deceased. The division of the estate was made in 1746 and it was distributed to Cromwell Coffin, Abel Gardner, guardian; Elias Coffin, Jane Bunker, Joseph Coffin, Benjamin Coffin and Uriah Gardner, guardian.

Feb. 12, 1730. Hannah Manning, widow of William, administratrix of his estate which included an old and a new house. Only children were two minors, David and Phebe.

Jan. 7, 1732. Will of Charles Crosby proved witnesses Samuel Gardner, Samuel Stanton, David Gardner and Joseph Jenkins. A small legacy to sister Martha and residue to brother William.

Nov. 1, 1734. Will of Ebenezer Coleman probated, one of the witnesses being Benjamin Frost. After a legacy to Brother Joseph, the balance to wife Sarah.

Jan. 3, 1734. George Hussey administrator, estate of Paul Coffin, valued at 4876£, including  $\frac{1}{2}$  share of Nantucket 3200£; 1-24 of Tuckanuck 550£ and 1-12 of Quaise 300£. The estate passed to widow Mary Coffin, who had married a Pierce [probably Clothier] and to children.

Peter, aged 17, of whom George Hussey was guardian. Mary and Paul under 14 of whom Clothier Pierce was guardian.

Feb. 7, 1734. Judith Barnard, widow of Benjamin, appointed administratrix of his estate, appraised at 2610£. The following were some of the items in the inventory. share of Old Wharf: 5-12 of sloop Ranger;  $\frac{1}{4}$  of mill; silver cup and spoons; 1-12 of woman's school house and 1-18 of man's school house; a whole boat, oars, craft to the boat; house at Weweder. [An outfit for shore whaling.] Elwood's Sacred History. He left seven children, Abigail who had married and Timothy who were of age: Francis 17; John 15 and Abishai, Nathaniel and Mary, all under 14. In the division the house went to Timothy.

Sept. 5, 1735. Probated will of Stephen Coffin "aged and infirm," witnesses Samuel Coffin, William Gardner, Lydia Barney, Elizabeth Moores. His children Stephen, Peter, Paul, Daniel, Dinah Norton and Mehitabel Smith, had died. Most of estate given to daughter Susannah Bunker, Anna Gardner, Judith Wilcox and grand daughters Keziah Gardner, Anna Starbuck and Mary Coleman.

Jan. 17, 1735. John Pinkham son of Jonathan, administrator of his father's estate amounting to 854£. The deceased had daughters Lydia and Elizabeth, of whom Andrew Myrick was guardian and Jonathan, aged 13, Hannah and Zephaniah of whom John Pinkham was guardian, and there were Solomon and Job, who were of age. There was a great number of persons paid from this estate which suggests that the deceased owed some of them as employees. Their names are given in the following list:

John Pinkham, Solomon Pinkham, Shuball Pinkham, Theophilus Pinkham, Andrew Myrick, Isaae Myrick, Ebazer Folger, Anna Folger, Jonathan Folger, Daniel Folger, John Coffin, Jonathan Coffin, Richard Coffin, Nathaniel Coffin, James Coffin, Ebenezer Barnard, Judith Barnard, Rachel Chase, Leah Paddock, Nathaniel Paddock, Andrew Gardner, Mary Gardner, Benjamin Gardner, Keziah Gardner, Jeremiah Gardner, Ebenezer Gardner, Jeremiah Gardner, George Gardner, Jonathan Gardner, Reuben Gardner, John Gardner, Solomon Coleman, Jonathan Coleman, Nathan Coleman, Jethro Coleman, Thomas Clark, Hannah Daggett, Elihu Lumber, Richard Swain, John Swain, Jonathan Moores, Jethro Starbuck, Paul Starbuck, Samnel Barker, Silvanus Allen, Matthew Jenkins, Selvaus Hussey, Thomas Brock, John Beard, John Sadler, Jedidiah Fitch, Peter Fitch, Edward Bennett, Wm. Stratton, Richard Maey, Daniel Bunker, Joseph Worth, Richard Worth, Micah Gundy, Benjamin Trott, Samuel Maxey.

Feb. 20, 1735. The estate of Joshua Sevelle, laborer, amounting to 200£, as there were no children or kindred, was ordered paid to his widow, Elizabeth.

Dec. 9, 1737. Nathan Coffin, guardian of Judith Coffin, 15 years old and daughter of Elisha Coffin.

Sept. 2, 1737. Will of Shubael Coffin probated, one of the witnesses being Thomas Carver. Widow was Priscilla, brother Zephaniah and sisters Hephzibah Barnard and Dinah Folger. Servant Bristol to be free at the age of thirty.

Dec. 2, 1737. Keziah Gardner, widow of Jethro, administratrix of his estate.

At the same date Abigail Pinkham, widow of John, administratrix of his estate worth 670£. Silver buckles, spoons and buttons, scheduled.

Dec. 12, 1737. Nathan Folger, administrator of estate of John Arthur, valued at 1350£. The persons to whom it was distributed were Eunice, Thomas, Keturah, Stephen, Eleazer and Priscilla Arthur and Persis Black.

Oct. 30, 1728. John Coffin administrator of the estate of Francis Coffin who left three minor children, one daughter and two sons. Estate 825£, including one Indian boy Joseph.

March 2, 1739. Will of John Swain, probated. His house and furniture to wife Experience for life and after her the furniture to daughters Ruth Upham, Katherine Wyer, Hannah Gardner, and the children of a deceased daughter, Priscilla Bunker. The real estate went to sons William, John, Eliokim, Stephen and George. Dated June 22, 1728. One of the witnesses was Moses Giles. His personal estate was 222£, including silver tankard, cup and spoons. Daniel Bunker was the husband of Priscilla who had died and she had left three minor children.

Sept. 7, 1739. Will of Wm. Gardner, cooper, probated, one witness being Ebenezer Calef. He left a wife, Hepsibah, and three sons and two daughters, not named.

Dec. 31, 1739. Probated will of Samuel Barker, described as of Falmouth. Witnesses were Joseph Marshall, Stephen Harper and James Hineckley. To daughter Deborah, the property which came to me from my former wife, who was

her mother. The income of the rest of my estate to my widow, Bethia and after her to children Robert, Samuel, Josiah and Judith. He left 1490£. The inventory included four slaves: Man Primas 60£, Woman Zubuiah 80£, Child Boston 5£, Mulatto Pero 30£, and a punch bowl. In the account is an item "lost Negro woman Zubuiah."

The children under age were Robert 18, Samuel 16, and Josiah 14. Judith died before March 1743.

May 29, 1740. Probated will of Manuel Gabriel, dated at sea. Witnesses Joseph Worth and Matthew Pate. Property given to wife and children.

Dec. 19, 1740. David Clark, administrator estate of Thomas Clark, valued at 820£. It went to Elizabeth Clark, widow and to children David, Jonathan, Peter, Josiah, Simeon, Amos, Abigail and Jerusha, wife of Shubael Folger.

March 6, 1741. Probated will of Sarah Odar, single woman. Her estate was given to her sister Lois Stratton, wife of Caleb.

Sept. 15, 1741. Simeon Bunker, administrator estate of George Bunker.

At same date probated will of James Coffin, who gave property to wife, Ruth and to his eight children, three daughters not named, and sons Nathan, James and Benjamin, and children of deceased children George and Sarah Gardner.

May 6, 1743. Sarah Worth, widow of Richard Worth, cordwainer, administratrix of his estate.

July 2, 1744. Probated will of John Swain, mariner. Income to wife, Mary, and the estate to children Elijah Francis, Tristram, Seth, Christian Folger, Ruth, Priscilla, Anna, Eunice and Jemima. Estate 1007£, including a large and small porringer, a eup, tankard, book by Geo. Fox and Sacred History and Life of David.

July 25, 1743. Sarah Stanton, widow of Samuel, administratrix of his estate, amounting to 900£. She soon after married a Pinkham.

March 27, 1744. Peter Barnard, carpenter, administrator

estate of Nathaniel Barnard, mariner, valued at 690£. Estate given to Judith Wilcox, mother of deceased. It appeared that Peter was brother of Nathaniel and they had a sister Elizabeth Coleman, who had died leaving a son Nathaniel. In the inventory was included an epitome, gold buttons, watch and chainy punch bowl.

Feb. 1, 1744. Probated will of George Bunker, Esq., former Judge of Probate, dated May 1743. Part of his house to his widow Deborah for life and then with other estate to three sons, Daniel, John and Caleb.

Aug. 1, 1745. Nathaniel Coleman, son of Barnabas, was 16 years old and placed under guardianship.

Oct. 4, 1744. Inventory of John Swain filed by Mary Swain, executrix, amounting to 1007£. It included 2 large silver porringers and 2 small, a silver spout cup, 1 clock, 1 large tankard, 1 large looking glass, 11 silver buttons, ½ share Old Wharf and 1-3 sloop Humburd. This estate went to four sons Elijah, Francis, Tristram and Seth.

December, 1744. Ben Abel, Indian Sachem, left estate £89.

February 7, 1746. Caleb Stratton administrator estate of William Stratton, chairmaker, amounting to £220.

February, 1746. Alexander Coffin, Ebenezer Coffin, sons of Alexander, were minors and placed under guardianship.

November, 1746. John Renuff had died leaving a widow Sarah and his only child Elizabeth, wife of William Abrahams, Jr.

February 6, 1747. Uriah Gardner admin. estate Daniel Bunker, which amounted to £2,214, and included one-third of a whale sloop and two-thirds share new wharf. He left a son Joseph, 19, and Tristram, who was under 14. Estate included law books, dictionary, silver tankard, porringer, cup, spoons and buttons.

February, 1746. Ruth Gardner, daughter of Uriah, was a minor and a guardian was appointed.

The will of Stephen Arthur, dated April, 1737, was probated July 8, 1747. Three-quarters of his estate given for life to sister Priscilla, and residue to "my friend Thomas Brock."

Will of Nathan Folger, dated June, 1745, and probated September, 1747. Personal estate given to children Timothy, Leah Paddock, Esther, Judith Jenkins; and house and lands devised to sons Abishai, Peter and Barzillai.

Will of Joseph Gardner, dated April, 1743, and probated October, 1747. To son Bethuel, my clock and the house at Wesco, formerly my father's dwelling. Specific devises to children Patience Brock, Margaret Chase, and to grand children, Timothy Gardner, Mary Gardner, Obed Gardner, and residue to sons Bethuel, Charles, Shubael and Caleb. When the estate was divided in December, 1748, it is stated that the son Shubael had died at sea. He gave income of certain estate to wife Ruth.

November, 1747. The children of John Coffin, who left no will, agree on a division, Richard for himself and as guardian of his brother, Elias, Judith Gardner and Ebenezer, her husband; and Abigail Folger and her husband Zacheus.

Will of James Gardner, haberdasher, dated 1747, and probated May, 1748. To wife Judith, one-half of his house, and to sister Judith and his brothers, the rest of his lands, and to his brethren, silver buckles, kalender, quadrant, great chest and desk.

1748. Inventory of estate of James Cadode, £88.

Will of John Barnard, dated December, 1736, and probated June 8, 1748. To wife Sarah, life estate; personal property to children Matthew, Samuel, Hannah and Jemima Coleman. Real estate to sons Samuel, Robert and Matthew.

Will of William Swan probated August, 1748, by which he gave all to his friend Thomas Carr.

Will of Joseph Marshall, cordwainer, dated 1743, and probated August 5, 1748. To wife Abigail, income of certain estate; to son Benjamin, his house and great church Bible. Pecuniary legacies to children Hawkins, Mary Folger, Margaret Wadsworth, Ruth Clark, and to grand children Charles, Cornelius, Abigail and Rebecca Chase. To son Joseph, residue, including books, fish house, flakes and boat craft.

August 5, 1748. Abigail Folger, widow of Daniel, administratrix of his estate, valued at £1,521 and including a silver tankard, clock, part of the windmill and Indian servant.

September, 1748. Probated will of Timothy Barnard that left estate to wife Mary and children not named, but by appointment of guardians it appeared that there were children, Judith, 17, Susannah, Mary, William and Timothy, 10. Estate £1,500, including a Dutch Bible.

October, 1748. Hannah Jones, widow of Thomas, administratrix of his estate, amounting to £217.

October, 1737. Inventory of estate of Jethro Gardner in old tenor amounted to £3,536, and included three-eighths of a sloop, Spanish iron, smith's tools, horse shoes, one-half share old wharf, a calash, and money, £489. 1748 his children Micah, Peter, Matthew and Jethro, all over 14, chose as their guardian "our honored father Paul Starbuck." The list of his heirs is elsewhere given, Peleg, Hezekiah, Peter, Matthew, Jethro, Judith, and heirs of son James, deceased.

May, 1749. The heirs of Daniel Folger were five children, Keziah Coffin, Daniel, Abigail and Mary, the last three being minors.

Will of John Swain, weaver, probated December, 1749. His legatees were wife Patience, daughter Hannah, sons Oliver and Chapman, grandsons John and Joseph Swain, daughters Dinah Cathcart, wife of Hugh, Deborah Chadwick, wife of Richard, and Ann Cartwright, wife of Samuel.

Will of Thomas Brock probated May 9, 1750. To his wife Patience, his great Bible. Negro man Robin to be free at the age of 30. His estate to widow and nine children, John, Joseph, Andrew, Thomas, Walter, Margaret, James, Ann and Elizabeth. His estate was appraised in old tenor at £16,192 and in modern currency was worth about one-sixth. The inventory covered a great quantity of silver and household articles. There were included a negro woman, still house, one-third try house and interests in nine sloops.



Jemima, Nantucket, Tryall, Susanna, Content, Hannah, Pearl, Fortune, Fame.

The division of the estate of Thomas Brock, made in April, 1771, was between John, William, Andrew and Walter Brock, Margaret Bunker, wife of Joshua, Janet Townsend, wife of James, Elizabeth Chase, wife of Benjamin, and Anna Brock.

Will of George Gardner, dated 1733, and probated May, 1750. After a life estate to wife Eunice and legacies to daughters Hephzebah Gardner and Priscilla Pinkham he gives his house to son Grafton, and to son Thomas, clock, try-house and kettles and silver tankard, and the residue to the same two sons.

Will of Jabez Bunker probated May 25, 1750. Legacies to daughters Hannah and Naomi Paddock. To sons Samuel and Benjamin, where Samuel's house stands; my house to sons Peter and Peleg and residue to sons Samuel, Paul, Benjamin, Peter, Abner and Peleg.

May, 1750. A guardian appointed for the minor children of Grindall Gardner, Timothy, 17, and Mary, 16.

August, 1750. Samuel Maxey, administrator estate of Robert Leach, amounting to £141.

Old tenor and lawful money. About 1750 throughout New England values were estimated in two standards of currency having the above names. Old tenor had become seriously debased. The fact is here mentioned without explaining the economic causes. The Register of Probate at Nantucket took some pains to record the relation between the two standards. Old tenor in one case was 177—11—8, and lawful money is stated as the equivalent 23—13—6, or nearly eight to one.

In 1756 old tenor in one case was £1,984, and lawful money its equivalent £264. In numerous cases where both methods are exhibited the same proportion is shown for several years. So at this period old tenor should be divided by 7.7 to obtain the appraisal according to the modern value of an English pound.

Will of Jonathan Upham, carpenter, probated August, 1750. To wife Ruth, an estate for life; a legacy to daughter Judith Deland; to son-in-law Henry Fitzgerald, one-fourth of my sloop; rest of estate to children, Mary, Susannah, Elizabeth Williams, Anna, Deborah Fitzgerald, Jonathan and grandson David Upham. Estate valued at £360.

Will of Eliakim Swain probated August, 1750. To daughters Priscilla, Rachel, Lydia and Hannah, cows common. To son Charles, one-fourth of sloop Dove and one-third of mill I own with John Macy. To son Timothy, 16 years old, one-third of mill, my homestead. To wife Abigail, income from certain property. Balance to son Charles. His estate amounted to £1,018, and included a clock, two silver porringers, a tankard and sloops Dove and Ranger.

August 18, 1750. Hannah Chadwick, widow of Daniel, administratrix of his estate.

October, 1750. Elizabeth Phillips, widow of Micah, administratrix his estate, valued at £467. He left children, Sam, aged 14; Abraham, 16, and Daniel, 19.

October, 1752. Jonathan Pinkham, son of John, 17 years.

Will of Daniel Hussey probated December 31, 1750. Mentions father Silvanus and brother-in-law Barnabas Coleman. His estate to five children, Stephen, 19; Elizabeth; Daniel, 15; Rachel, 13, and Eunice, 10. Inventory £6369, including interests in sloops Mary, Hephzibah and Two brothers, Indian Boy and two shares in schoolhouse.

January 23, 1750. Richard Worth administrator estate of Benjamin Worth and guardian of Benjamin, Francis, minor sons of deceased.

March 23, 1750. Nathan Coffin administrator estate of Simeon Bunker, deceased, valued at £579. It was distributed to widow Huldah, who in 1753 had married a Barney, and to sons Bachelor and Simeon, the latter in 1754 being 16 and the former still a minor. Inventory included book on navigation, Seneca's Morals, Penn's Maxims and No Cross, No Crown.

January, 1752. Estate of Peter Coffin divided between

children Bartlett, Abner, Peter, Lydia Long, Margaret Bunker, Jerusha Matthews, Hannah Barnard. Bartlett Coffin was appointed administrator December, 1749, and the estate was valued at £5,076.

Will of John Macy probated February, 1752. To wife Judith, one-third estate for life. Sons Seth and William to have house. Land in Dartmouth devised to daughters, Ann Jenkins, Judith Macy, Sarah Gardner, Abigail, and the children of deceased daughter Miriam. Residue to sons Seth, John, David, Jonathan and William. The inventory amounted to £2,366 and included one-sixth of the Friendship, one-half try-house and kettles, great house, one-half sloop Kingfisher and one-fourth sloop Hannah.

Will of Eleazer Folger probated October 1, 1752. To widow Mary, income for life and then to children, Deborah Frost, Bethiah Margaret, Sophia, Mary, Urian, Charles, Stephen Eliphaz, Frederick and Peleg.

Will of Nathaniel Starbuck, dated 1742, and probated November, 1753. To wife Dinah, use of shipping, fishing and whaling vessels. House to son Tristram. Other real estate to son Paul. Rest of estate to six daughters, Elizabeth, Hepizbah, Abigail Way, Ruth Russell, Anna, Mary, and grandson Benjamin Starbuck. Abigail had a son Zaccheus Howes.

Will of William Macy probated November, 1753. Estate to widow Mary and two children, Lydia, 7, and William, 5. Inventory included interest in brig Friendship and tan vats

Will of Benjamin Trott, dated 1739, and probated August, 1754. Estate £1,517 given to wife Elizabeth and to children John, Benjamin, Mary, Rachel, Ann and Priscilla, Elizabeth, 14; Dinah, 11, and Abigail, 8.

September, 1754. Christian Allen, widow of Ebenezer, administratrix of his estate, valued at £190, and the same went to widow and children, Edward, 14; Ann, 12; Tristram 10; Judith, 7; Ebenezer, 5, and Abigail, 3 years.

Will Isaac Coleman probated November, 1754. To wife Jane, furniture. To kinsman Daniel Coleman, his house.

To kinsman Elihu Coleman, land at Mill Brook. To kinsman George Coleman, an oval table. To kinsman Peter Coleman, bed. To kinsman John Coleman, Bible.

February, 1755. Elizabeth Swain, widow of Joseph, administratrix of his estate.

1755. Estate of Richard Swain, valued at £719, included an interest in a schooner and an old brig, and was distributed to widow Elizabeth and to children, Joseph, Anna Bunker, Jonathan, David, Richard, Christopher, 20; Lydia, 17; Elizabeth, 14; Hepzibah, 12, and Mary, 10.

May, 1756. Abigail Starbuck, widow of John Starbuck, administratrix of his estate, valued at £1,984. Child Ann, 2 years old.

Will of Thomas Carr, probated October 1, 1756. Estate given to wife Mary and daughter Mary, and to sons-in-law Uriah, Obed and John Bunker. Inventory £6,900, included five-sixteenths sloop Desire.

Will of Joseph Coleman probated December, 1756. To wife Rachel and son Ebenezer, his house. Legacies to children Lydia, Abigail and Deborah. "If my son Joseph should return, he to have my quadrant and seafaring books." Residue to Ebenezer, Timothy, 14, and Joseph, 17.

Will Jedediah Fitch probated March, 1754. His wife Abigail was not mentioned. Estate to children Elizabeth Calef, Peter, Mary Bailey, widow, and Beriah.

Will of Jethro Gardner probated August, 1757. Estate given to wife Dinah and daughter Hepzibah.

Will Benjamin Swain probated September 5, 1757. To wife Mary, one-half of my house and to son Jethro other half. To children Patience Russell, Peleg, Christopher, Lydia Worth, and to children of my son Nathaniel, Abigail, 18, and Lydia, 16.

Will of Robert Coffin, dated 1750, and probated 1757. Estate £3,200 given to wife Susannah and to children Hepzibah, Catharine, Mary, Joanna, Susannah and Margaret.

November, 1757. Desire Bunker, widow of Zacchariah, administratrix of his estate.

Will of Judith Bunker probated October, 1758. She was sister of Hezekiah Gardner. Her estate was given to children Peter and Keziah.

October, 1758. Hannah Wyer, widow of Timothy, fellowmongre, administratrix of his estate, amounting to £1,462. His children were Edward, John, Sarah, Mary and Lydia, 16.

Will of Matthew Jenkins probated December, 1758. Mentions share in schoolhouse. To wife Mary, one-half of my house and rest of estate to children Peter, Sarah Hussey, Mary Butler, Joseph, and the children of his son Thomas and daughter Bethia Bunker, both deceased.

January, 1758. Estate John Ellis administered. He had two children, May, 1759, were placed under guardianship. Robert, 13, and Sarah, 9.

Will Paul Starbuck, June, 1759. Estate given to wife Elizabeth, children Edward, Joseph, Samuel, Hezizibah Hussey, Abigail Hussey, Mary Coffin, Anna Pinkham, Dinah Starbuck, a minor, Elizabeth Coffin.

May, 1759. Samuel Coffin of Edgartown, administrator estate Jonathan Coffin.

July, 1759. Robert Coffin left 10 children, not named, one of whom was Robert, a minor.

October 6, 1759. Jemima Coffin, widow of James, administratrix of his estate.

Will of Matthew Gardner, probated December, 1759, gave estate to wife Susannah and daughters Judith, 5, and Ann.

December 10, 1759. Jonathan Myrick, administrator estate of Isaac Myrick, distributed to children Isaac, Mary Gardner, Hannah, Lydia Coffin, Rebecca, John, Timothy, William, Elizabeth, 10, the last four being minors.

Will of Hugh McCoy, probated January, 1760, gave estate to brothers and sisters, Robert, James, William, Margaret, Elizabeth, Jane and Ann.

April, 1760. Hannah Daggett, administratrix of the estate of her husband, Jacob Daggett. It went to their children Hezizibah Butler, Hindah Daggett, Joseph Daggett, and to the children of a deceased son Nathan, who were Stephen, 17; Hezizibah, 13; Timothy, 10, and Lydia.

May, 1760. Probated John Way's will. To widow Abigail and sons John, Paul and Seth the estate, amounting to £976, including one-third of mill and three-quarters of sloop Abigail.

Will Solomon Gardner, dated 1753 and probated July, 1761, gave estate to children, Elizabeth Swain, Sarah Joy, Mary Worth, Dinah Macy, Reuben, Stephen, David, Richard, Solomon and Paul.

Will of Joseph Starbuck probated November, 1760. He had a brother Samuel. Estate given to three minor children, Nathaniel, Hephzibah and Phebe. Estate £5,080 old tenor.

November, 1760. Probated will William Starbuck; gave estate to wife Lydia and to children, Anna, 7; Jethro, Judith Worth, Mary Macy; to grand children Jethro and Ebenezer Barnard, children of Jethro Barnard and deceased daughter, Eunice Barnard. Estate valued at £4,252.

January, 1761. Christopher and Joshua Bunker, administrators estate of John Bunker, amounting to £3,692, including one-quarter sloop Ruby. He left two children, Elisha, aged 18, and Mary, also a minor.

Will of Judith Wilcox, dated 1756 and probated January, 1761. To son Peter Barnard, a great Bible. To son John Wilcox, the real estate from my mother, Mary Coffin. To grandson Nathaniel Barnard, what belonged to my son Nathaniel Barnard, whose father was Peter. Legacies to grandson Nathaniel Coleman, to children of my son Daniel Folger, deceased, to my daughter Mary Coleman. Rest to heirs of my daughters Keziah Starbuck and Anna Starbuck, both deceased.

February, 1761. From guardianship decrees it appeared that Tristram Bunker son of Daniel, 18; Peter Bunker, son of Peter, 6; Keziah Bunker, daughter of Peter, was over 21.

Will Mary Jenkins, probated May, 1761, gave estate to children Peter, Sarah Hussey, Mary Butler, Joseph, to grand child Ruth Bunker and to children of her daughter Bethia Bunker and son Thomas.

1761. James Bunker had left children, Elisha, 3, and William, 16.

Will of Robert Wyer, probated July, 1761, gave estate to wife Katherine and to children, William, Robert, Zachery, Ruth, Mary, Elizabeth, Phebe, Hephzibah.

September, 1761. Mary Storer, widow of Samuel, administratrix of his estate.

Will Peleg Gardner, probated October, 1761, gave estate to wife Eunice and to children, Barzillai, Keziah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth.

February, 1762. Hephzibah Bunker, widow of Abishai, administratrix of his estate. Deceased left children, Abishai, 8; Miriam, 7; Thaddens, 3; Hephzibah, 1.

Will of Hannah Wyer, probated April, 1762. The beneficiaries were Edward Wyer, son-in-law John Wyer, brother-in-law Richard Chadwick, brother Chapman and his children Patience, Judith, Deborah, Sarah; to Isaac and Mary Chase, my Indian girl, my grand children, Hannah, Mary and Dinah Wyer, kinswoman Susannah Moores, wife of Thomas, daughter-in-law Lydia Wyer, my sister Ann Cartwright, cousin Elizabeth Swain, wife of Peleg, cousin Phebe Cartwright, daughter of Samuel Cartwright, daughter-in-law Sarah Swain, wife, and Rhoda, daughter of Peter.

Will of Richard Worth, probated July 2, 1762, gave estate to wife Lydia grand children Francis and Benjamin Worth, both minors, and Mary and David Upham; daughters Priscilla Coleman, Eunice Gardner, Mary Baxter. Estate personal £818, included a Bible, silver tankard and interests in sloop Kit Baxter, Newcastle and Mary.

Will of Bartlett Coffin, probated August, 1762, gave estate to children, Rebecca, Christian Barker, Judith, Uriah, Enoch, Peleg.

Will of Jerusha Matthews, probated January, 1763, devised her estate to daughter Catherine Heath and to Abigail Jackson.

Will of Tristram Coffin, probated February, 1763, gave one cow commons to Nathaniel Macy, and rest of estate to children Abishai, Lydia, 13 years old, Jemima, Miriam, Huldah, all minors, and Phebe, who was probably of age.

Will of Peter Folger, probated March, 1763, gave estate to wife Christian and children Anna, Mary, Owen, Peter, Ruth, Lydia, Rachel, Eunice, Reuben.

Will Abigail Marshall, dated 1753 and probated May, 1763. She is described as a spinster. She gave her estate as follows: To grandchild Zaccheus Howes, land on Sheepscot River. To grandchild Mary Starbuck, land on Sheepscot River. To grandchild Abigail Marshall, furniture. To grandchild Mary Marshall, gold necklace and silver cup. To grandchild Jemima Marshall, silver porringer. To grandchild Huldah Marshall, silver spout cup. To grandchild Thomas Marshall, silver spoons marked A. H. To grandchildren Obed and Elinh Marshall, money. To son Joseph, the residue.

December, 1763. Mercy Chase, widow of Isaac, administratrix, his estate amounting to £350.

Will of Benjamin Gardner, probated February, 1764. Estate given to wife Hannah, son Robert, son-in-law Benjamin Russell and Rebecca his wife, grandsons Silvanus Gardner, Obadiah Gardner, son Benjamin. Mentions grandson Solomon Folger.

Will of Urian Folger, probated February, 1764. After devises to brother Eliphaz and son-in-law Benjamin Pitts, the residue to wife Judith.

February, 1764. Uriah Gardner, administrator estate of Ebenezer Gardner.

Will of Samuel Coffin, probated March, 1764. Estate given to children John, William, David, Deborah Starbuck, Miriam Pinkham, Mary Barnard, Priscilla Coleman and the heirs of a deceased daughter, Sarah Pinkham.

April, 1764. William Rotch, administrator estate Samuel Gorham.

Will of Damaris Coffin, dated 1754 and probated October 5, 1764. Her estate amounted to £912, included silver tankard, cup and spoons, and was given to children William, Benjamin, Gayer, Nathaniel, Dorcas Soley, Lydia Chase, Christian Edwards, Katherine Gardner and children of de-



ceased son Charles. When the division was made in 1765, children Gayer, Charles and Lydia had died.

Will of Philip Pollard, probated February, 1765, gave a life estate to his widow Mehitable and his sister Elizabeth. Legacies were provided for daughters Elizabeth and Mary Gardner, wife of Solomon Gardner, and the rest to son George, who received specifically "my house, cloek, silver tankard, large oval table, large looking glass and one-half of my printed books.

Will of Robert Barnard, probated October, 1765. Son Nathaniel received land in the Barnard Fish lot on Wesco Hill; son Matthew had land where Stephen Hussey's blacksmith shop stood; son Robert, land in Newtown, where my daughter Eunice Ray's house stands; sons Abishai and Shubael, land in Newtown; and to son Jonathan, other land. To wife Hepsibah, estate for life, and then to six sons. Personal estate given to daughters Eunice, Elizabeth, Hepsibah, Sarah and Anna.

Administration granted October, 1766, on estate of Alexander Gardner.

October, 1766. John Rand, administrator estate of Caleb Rand, and Rachel Clark, administratrix of estate of James Clark.

October, 1766. Elisha Pinkham, aged 11, and Nathaniel Pinkham, 5, both sons of Nathaniel, placed under guardianship.

December, 1766. Administration on estate of Joseph Daws.

March, 1767. Shubael Gardner, 16, son of Joseph, placed under guardianship; also Thomas Arthur was appointed guardian of Rhoda Arthur, 14, child of John; also Eunice Gardner, widow of Joseph, guardian of her younger children.

March, 1767. The estate of Ebenezer Gardner included lands and houses valued at £4,000. His first wife was named Eunice and the second Judith, who was living at the date of the division. There had been ten children, to whom the estate was distributed: Uriah, Samuel, Ebenezer, Lydia

Hawes, Joseph, Peleg, Margaret Mayo, Anna Chase, the children of the wife of Shubael Barnard, deceased, and Rhoda Arthur, daughter of John Arthur.

Will of Sylvanus Hussey, probated March, 1767, is long and indicates that he was a wealthy man. To each of ten of his descendants he devised the house and land where he lived. His own old house going to son Joseph. No inventory is on record, but he owned considerable shipping. No widow is mentioned, but the estate was given to his children, Obed, Jonathan, Christopher, William, Bachelor, Nathaniel, Silvanus, George, Joseph, Rachel Coleman, Hepzibah Coleman, grand children Benjamin, Obed, Stephen and Daniel Hussey, Elizabeth Coffin, Rachel Mitchell, Eunice Worth, Seth Hussey, and daughter-in-law Sarah Hussey.

Will of Elijah Pitts, probated February, 1767. Bible and shoe buckles went to his mother, Jedidah Folger, and the rest of his estate to wife Thankful for life, and after them to Elijah Pitts, son of my brother Benjamin.

Will of Ebenezer Barnard, probated June 5, 1767. His house was given to his wife and son Stephen and the rest to his children William, Lydia and Jemima Coffin.

Will Peter Gardner, probated July, 1767, mentions land between the mill and schoolhouse, near house of Stephen Chase. The estate passed to wife Elizabeth and children Enoch, Deborah, Elizabeth, Lydia Hammond, Love Coffin and Benlah Coffin.

Will of Joseph Swain, probated October, 1767, gave an estate valued at £957 to wife Elizabeth, to daughters Elizabeth and Eunice, and his house and lands to son Joseph, the same being near Benjamin Fosdick's, and he mentions his brother, Jonathan Swain.

Will of Shubael Pinkham, probated November, 1767, gave his estate to widow Abigail for life and then to children, Richard, Benjamin, Shubael, Daniel, Mary Coffin, Ruth Coleman, Anna Gardner, Abigail Maey, and Phebe Bunker. To son Benjamin, "all my Looms."

January, 1768, Margaret Chase, widow, appointed administratrix of the estate of her husband Stephen.

Will of Richard Coffin, probated April, 1768, gave estate to widow Ruth and to children, Barnabas, Richard, Francis, Silvanus, Lydia Anthony wife of Joseph, Judith Macy, Abigail Worth, Ruth Folger, and to children of my deceased daughter Phebe Swain.

November, 1767. A guardian appointed for Barnabas Gardner, insane.

Will of John Coffin, probated May, 1768, transferred his estate to wife Lydia and children Peter, Jethro, John, Richard, Keziah Gardner, Deborah Myrick, Lydia Fosdick, Parnal Brock, and to granddaughters Mary and Parnal Paddock, children of my daughter Parnal Brock. In his estate were enumerated a silver Tankard, spoons and a "Clash."

June, 1768. A guardian appointed for Silas Rand, son of Caleb, aged 14.

May, 1768. Inventory of estate Benjamin Chase included a Desk, large looking glass, silver tankard, and spoons.

June, 1768. Elisha Gardner, blacksmith, and George Gardner, Gentleman, were appointed administrators of the estate of Jeremiah Gardner.

On same date, probated will of Francis Coffin, which gave an estate for life to wife Ann and then to children, of which only Hepsibah is named.

Will of John Ellis, probated August, 1768, gave estate to wife Dinah and then to children William, Abigail, Dinah Gardner, Hepzibah, Susannah and Deborah.

October, 1768. Probated will of Barnabas Gardner. His wife was Mary and children were Mary Worth wife of Francis, Hannah, Susannah Russell, Jedediah, Abigail, Hepzibah, Jethro, Zaecheus, Jonathan.

Will of Nathan Coffin, probated January, 1768, gave estate to wife Lydia and children Nathan, Charles and others not named.

November, 1769. Will of Hezekiah Coffin probated and gave estate to wife Lydia and then to children Mary, Elijah, Elizabeth, Uriah, Abihu, Eliel, Lebbeus and Laban. Lebbeus was "a poor decrepid child."

January, 1769. Benjamin Clark, administrator of estate of John Clark.

April, 1769. Phebe Meader, administrator estate of her husband Nason Meader.

June, 1769. Eunice Ray, administratrix estate Samuel Ray, and at the same date guardians were appointed for his children Barnabas and Elizabeth, who were over 14, and Christopher, Daniel, Samuel, Mary and Jonathan, who were under that age.

Will Nathaniel Hussey, probated July, 1769, gave to wife Judith, estate for life and then to children Francis, David, Peleg, Abraham, Nathaniel, Phebe and Rachel.

March, 1770. Nathaniel Coffin was appointed guardian for his sisters-in-law Miriam and Huldah Coffin, children of Tristram.

April, 1770. Will of David Basehard, a native of London, Tavern Keeper, was probated. Besides a legacy to his sister Mary, his estate was given to his wife Elizabeth, and included a negro girl slave and a pew in the Congregational Meeting House. His estate valued at £1000.

At the same date, a guardian was appointed for Francis and Hepzibah Coffin, children of Francis, deceased.

Will of Daniel Pinkham, probated July, 1770, gave estate to wife Abigail, brother Theophilus and to Peleg, son of my brother Peleg.

Will of Abishai Gardner, probated October, 1770, mentions the fact of a former marriage "before I married last," and that his father was Robert, and Christopher Starbuck was his brother-in-law. His estate was given to his wife Mary and daughters Phebe and Lydia.

November, 1770. Reuben Gardner was appointed administrator of estate of Thaddeus Gardner, in whose estate was a mulatto Boy.

Will of Priscilla Trott, probated January, 1771, gives estate to Kinsman Benjamin Trott and Kinswoman Ann Trott.

Will of Mary Barnard, probated February, 1771, gave

estate to children Lydia Folger, Miriam Clark, John Worth, Christopher Worth, Jonathan Worth, Stephen and Wm. Barnard and to grandchildren Abishai, Phebe, Lydia, Jemima, Miriam and Huldah Coffin. She had a son-in-law Jonathan Folger.

May, 1771. Daniel Pinkham, cooper, and Hepzibah Pinkham, widow, admrs. of estate of Benjamin Pinkham.

On the same date Parnel Coffin, widow of Edward, administratrix of his estate.

June, 1771. Paul Paddock, administrator estate of Nathaniel Paddock.

At same date, administration on estate of Elijah Daggett.

Will of Wm. Barnard, probated August, 1771, gave estate to wife Mary and to children. In 1777 when the Division was made the children were Mary, Tristram, Miriam Macy, Obed, Paul, Eunice Swain, Lydia Coffin and Phebe.

September, 1771. Hezekiah Gardner, Cordwainer, administrator estate of Peter Gardner.

Will of Abel Gardner, probated October, 1771, transferred estate to wife Priscilla and children Priscilla Russell, Sarah Gardner, Phebe Rawson, Elizabeth Aldridge, Eunice Bunker, Nathan, Ephraim, Shubael, James, Joshua, Abel, Heirs of my children Abigail and Joshua, both deceased.

January, 1772. Guardian appointed for children of Edward Coffin, deceased, Christopher above 14, Peter, Edward and Sarah.

Will of Robert Macy, probated January, 1772, gave estate to children Nathaniel, Robert, John, Judith Stratton, Elizabeth Moores, John, Abigail, Mary Eunice; grandchildren Deborah Cartwright, Phebe and Lydia Gardner, and to his widow Abigail Macy.

At the same date, administration on estate of Samuel Maxey.

Will of Solomon Coleman, probated February, 1772, gave to wife Deliverance a life estate, and the rest to children Hepzibah, Christopher, Abigail Coffin, Elizabeth Gwinn Hepzibah, Daniel, Peleg, George, Francis, Solomon.

At the same date, will of James Proctor gave all estate to wife Lydia.

April, 1772. Will of Lemuel Barnard gave his estate, one half to his brother Matthew and the other half to the children of his brother Robert, who were Jonathan, Matthew, Nathaniel, Robert, Abishai and Shubael.

Will of John Jackson, probated April, 1772, gave estate to wife Abigail.

May, 1772. Richard Chadwick, administrator estate of Patience Swain.

At the same date, probated the will of Elias Coffin, which gave estate to wife Love, sons-in-law John Woodbury and Jeremy Prior, and to children Anna Pinkham, Jane, Dinah, Elias, Prince, John, Merab and Love. The silver Tankard went to Anna.

June, 1772. Probated will of Jethro Folger, which transferred his estate to children John, Tristram, Jethro, Anna Mitchell, Lydia Coffin, Eunice Coleman, the heirs of my deceased daughter Jedidah Gardner, and my grandson Paul Swain.

At the same date, Judith Barnard, widow, appointed administratrix estate of her husband Christopher, which was valued at £1322.

July, 1772. Guardian appointed for children of Christopher Barnard, namely Christopher and two daughters not named.

July 28, 1772. Will of Joseph Macy probated. It transferred estate to wife Hannah and to children Mary, Bertha Swain, Joseph, Henry, Paul and Enoch.

August, 1772. Administration on estate of Wm. Bunker.

January, 1773. Elizabeth Moores, administratrix of estate of her husband Alexander.

At the same date, administration on estate of Daniel Hussey, valued at £3300, and included one-fourth sloops Harlequin and Mayflower, and a Silver Tankard.

Will of Jonathan Coffin, probated March, 1773, gave estate to wife Hepzibah and children Jonathan, Joshua, Susannah,

Anna Paddock, Mary Hussey, Heirs of son Henry, and of daughter Hepzibah, and James Coffin, son of my son James, deceased.

Will of Eliphalet Paddock, probated April, 1773, gave estate to wife, Naomi, children Jonathan, Benjamin, Silas, Eliphalet, David, Hannah, children of my son Joseph, of my deceased daughter Abigail, and to my granddaughters Mary and Parnel Paddock.

May, 1773. Elizabeth Moores, widow of Alexander, appointed guardian of Reuben and four other children of herself and Alexander.

June, 1773. The settlement of the estate of Benjamin Pinkham was approved, his four youngest children not named placed under guardianship. It appears that his widow Hepzibah had married a Coffin, that Charles was the oldest child and there were seven others not named.

December, 1773. Administration on estate of George Macy. He left widow Margaret and son George, 3 years old.

January 7, 1774. Administration on estate of Zaccheus and Lydia Howes.

Will of Richard Coffin, probated Feb., 1774, gave estate to daughter Lydia and named as executor his brother-in-law Benjamin Fosdick.

February, 1774. Tristram Swain appointed guardian of his nephew James Coffin, son of James, over 14.

February, 1774. Samuel Gardner appointed guardian of his niece Anna Howes, daughter of Zaccheus, aged 15.

March 4, 1774. Ruth Meader, widow of Nicholas, administratrix estate of her husband.

April, 1774. Hannah Lambert, widow of Zaccheus, administratrix of his estate.

At same date, Benjamin Chase, son of Isaac, deceased, aged 14, placed under guardianship.

May, 1774. The widow of Daniel Hussey, Hepzibah, had become insane and was placed under guardianship, and so were his children Joseph, Timothy and Alphens.

September, 1774. Administration on estate of John Hall.

September, 1774. Benjamin and Hepzibah Barnard were appointed administrators of estate of Stephen Barnard.

Will of William Aldrich probated November 4, 1774, and gave all estate to his wife Abigail.

November 4, 1774, Lydia Folger, widow of Shubael, was appointed administratrix of his estate.

Will of Peleg Pinkham, probated January, 1775, gave estate to wife Susannah and to children Peleg and Judith Coffin.

January, 1775. Mary Pinkham, daughter of James Coffin and granddaughter of Jonathan Coffin, was not named in the will of the latter, but her claim on that account was not allowed.

Will of Zephaniah Coffin, probated January, 1775, and gave estate to wife Abigail and children Solomon, Mary Bunker, Miriam Macy, Abigail Bunker, Shubael, Paul, Zephaniah and Stephen and heirs of my two deceased daughters, Hepzibah Coffin and Dinah Bunker.

Will of Ruth Upham, probated March, 1775, and estate went to children, Abigail Smith, Eunice Brown, Priscilla Ramsdell, granddaughter Anna Williams, son-in-law James Williams and grandson Jethro Starbuck.

Will of William Long, probated May, 1775, gave all estate to wife Lois.

May, 1775. Will of Nathaniel Folger was probated and gave estate to children Elizabeth Pease, Rebecca Merchant, Judith Heath and Paul.

Will of Peter Barnard, probated June, 1775, transferred estate to kinsman, Nathaniel Coleman, wife Anna, and children Nathaniel, Peter, Daniel, Elisha, Elizabeth Ray, Judith Barnard, grand children, Christopher Barnard, children of my deceased son Christopher, two children of my deceased daughter, Eunice Starbuck, and my granddaughter, Lucinda Barnard.

Will of George Brown, probated July, 1775, gave estate to wife Abigail and to children Elizabeth, Mary, Priscilla Briant, Abigail Macy, Francis, James and Joseph.



August, 1775. Administration on estate of John Osborne to widow Sarah.

August, 1775. Administration on estate of Francis Higgins, whose only heir was a sister, Hope Breton.

November, 1775. Estate of Robert Russell divided between the widow Jenima and Benjamin Russell.

December, 1775. Estate of Peter Bunker divided between Peter Bunker and Jonathan Bunker.

December, 1775. Lucy Morton, widow of Taber Morton, administratrix of his estate, valued at £1,850.

December, 1775. Sarah Hussey, widow of Seth, administratrix of his estate.

Will of Ebenezer Calef, probated June, 1776, gave estate to wife Elizabeth and to children Robert, Ebenezer, Mary Hussey, wife of Obed, Elizabeth Brock, wife of William, Margaret Coggeshall, wife of Paul.

July 5, 1776. Moses Giles, administrator estate of John Way, valued at £1,500 and included share in windmill.

Will of Benjamin Trott, probated August, 1776, gave estate to mother Elizabeth and to sisters Ann and Priscilla.

August, 1776. Estate of Patience Swain divided between Chapman Swain, Dinah Cathcart, Ann Cartwright, Deborah Chadwick and Oliver Swain.

Will of Jabez Macy, probated September, 1776, gave estate to wife Sarah and to children Eunice Beard, Lydia Jenkins, Sarah Macy, Jethro, daughter-in-law Rachel Macy, sons Daniel and Matthew.

December, 1776. The settlement of the estate of Peter Gardner required the appointment of guardians for children Matthew, Margaret, who chose their uncle Hezekiah Gardner, and two others not named. The widow Deborah had married a Coleman.

May, 1777. Division of estate of Jeremiah Gardner between children George, Elisha and Ruth Spooner.

Will Samuel Ray, probated October, 1776, gave estate to children Mary, William, John, David, Alexander, Enoch, Benjamin, Sarah Gardner, and children of my deceased son Samuel.

February, 1776. Administration on estate of Robert Barnard granted to widow Margaret.

March, 1777. Administration on estate of Peter Bunker.

Will of Thomas Starbuck, probated March, 1777, and transferred his estate to wife Rachel and to children Silvanus, William, Thomas, Gayer, Hezekiah, Elizabeth Folger, and the children of deceased daughter Rachel Gardner, viz.: Paul, Libni, George, Zenas, Lydia, Rachel and Dorcas.

April, 1777. Administration on estate of Andrew Myrick.

May, 1777. Administration on estate of Mary Ray granted to David Ray.

Will of Caleb Bunker, probated July, 1777, gave estate to wife Priscilla, son Caleb, John Brock, son of my deceased daughter, Anna Brock, Benjamin Bunker, son of my deceased son William, and the other children of William, Anna Gardner, William, Samuel, George, Mary and Priscilla, and other children of my deceased daughter Anna Brock, namely, Thomas, Margaret Coffin, John, Thaddens and Lydia Brock.

\* Will of Elizabeth Caleb, probated July, 1777, gave her estate to children Robert, Ebenezer, Mary Hussey, Elizabeth Brock and Margaret Coggeshall.

Will Jonathan Gardner, probated August, 1777, gave estate to wife Patience and children Elizabeth Coffin, Eunice Ray, Keziah Paddock, Ruth Crosby, Dinah Paddock, Mary Clark, Seth, Simeon, Elihu and Barnabas.

Will of Mary Barnard probated September, 1777, mentions the fact that her father was Samuel Coffin and that her children were Tristram, Paul, Miriam Macy, Eunice Swain, Lydia Coffin, Obed, Phebe and Mary, the last three being minors.

Will of Jonathan Pitts, probated September, 1777, gave estate to wife Huldah and four children not named.

September, 1777, administration on estate of Noah Pease granted to widow Anna.

October, 1777, John Worth appointed administrator estate to Mary Crosby.

January, 1778, Charles Pinkham guardian of his brother Obed, both being sons of Benjamin.

\*Should read, will of Elizabeth Calef.

February, 1778, will of Abishai Folger probated and property passed to wife Dinah and children, William, George, Timothy, Abishai, John, Robert, Reuben, Sarah, Hepzibah and Dinah.

Will of Abigail Way probated February, 1778, gave estate to daughter, Mary Starbuck, and to grandchildren, Abigail Swain and Anna Howes.

Will John Worth probated June, 1778, and gave estate to wife Abigail and children, Deborah, George, Eliakim, Hammah, Elizabeth, David, Edmund. He had a brother-in-law, Edmund Heath.



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# Nantucket Historical Association

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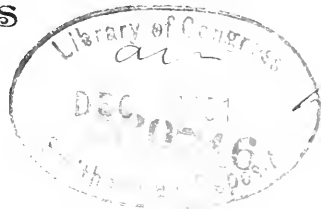
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BY

HENRY BARNARD WORTH



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## CHAPTER XV.

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### Wills and Estates—continued.

1778. Will of Benjamin Pitts probated. Wife, Mercy; children, Obed, Elijah, Mary, David, Benjamin and brother-in-law James Williams.

1778. Probated will of James Gardner. Wife, Susanna; children, Eliphalet, Benjamin, Deborah, Mehitable Coleman, Susanna and James. Bequeathed a silver tankard.

1778. Administration on estate of Barzillai Swain, inventorized at 227 pounds, insolvent.

1777. Inventory of estate of Robert Barnard. £238.

1776. Inventory of estate of Seth Hussey, £537.

1778. Probate of will of Jonathan Bunker. Wife, Judith; children, Peleg, William, Jonathan, Susannah Coffin, wife of Paul; Deborah Bunker, wife of Silas; Hepsobeth Coffin, wife of Zephaniah; Lydia, and Judith.

1778. Heirs of Robert Coffin were: Jonathan, Ephraim, and Margaret Coffin, Susannah Whippey, Katherine Folger, Paul Folger.

1779. Guardians appointed for children of Benjamin Gardner.

1779. Administration on estate of Uriah Gardner, amounting to £810.

Inventory of estate of Peter Bunker, £207.

1779. Guardian for Keziah and Josiah Bunker, children of Peleg Bunker.

1779. Probate of will of Shubael Chase. Wife, Sarah; children, George and Parnal Brown.

1779. Will Richard Burton. Legatees, Gideon Baty and father and mother, Philip and Mrs. Mary Burton of Castle Island. Ireland.

1769. Marriage settlement between Richard Macy and Alice Paddock.

1780. Will of Richard Macy. Wife, Alice; children. Caleb, Benjamin, Zaccheus, Judith and three who were dead, Mary Marshall, Abraham, and Ruth Starbuck. Estate £823.

1780. Probate of will of Josiah Coffin. Children, Priscilla, wife of Jonathan Coffin; Mary Gardner, wife of John; Ruth Calder, Anna Clark, wife of Joseph; Sarah Calef, wife of Robert; Elizabeth Woodbury, wife of Nathaniel; Abigail Coffin, wife of Elias; Janet Coffin, wife of James, Jr.; Josiah; deceased daughter Margaret Whitney; deceased son Edward, who left children, Peter, Christopher, Edward and Sarah. The will also mentions grandchildren John Coffin Whitney and Margaret Barnard.

1780. Margaret Barnard, widow of Robert, guardian of her four minor children.

1780. Administration on estate of Stephen Kidder, amounting to £457. Wife, Eunice.

1780. Will of Benjamin Macy. Wife, Abigail.

1780. Probate of will of Elizabeth Trott. Children, John. Mary Folger, Rachel Cloek, Dinah Starbuck, Abigail Allen, Elizabeth Ellis, Priscilla, Ann.

1780. Will of Jonathan Paddock. Wife Keziah was blind; children not named.

1780. Administration on estate of Hezekiah Coffin.

1780. Probated will of William Worth. Children. Jemima Gardner, Sarah, Damaris Starbuck, Miriam Worth, Hephzebah Macy, Hannah Swain, Jonathan, Jonah, Matthew.

1780. Probate will of Benjamin Coffin. Wife, Deborah; youngest daughter, Deborah; grandson, Matthew Macy.

1781. Administration on estate of Daniel Gardner, amounting to £971.



1781. Judith Worth, administratrix of Andrew Worth, amounting to £268.

1781. Guardian appointed for children of Andrew Worth, who were Lydia and Obed and five not named.

1781. Benjamin Allen, administrator estate of Nathaniel Allen.

1781. Thomas Chase, administrator estate Nathan Chase.

1781. Guardianship of Elizabeth Gardner, daughter of Hannah and James Gardner.

1781. Will Barnabas Coleman. Wife, Rachel; brothers, Jethro, Nathaniel and Joseph; children, Nathaniel, Seth, Silvanus, William, Barnabas, Obed, Abiel Folger, Judith Worth, Elizabeth Folger, Hephzibah Russell, two daughters deceased, Sarah Folger, Rebecca Coffin.

1781. Division of estate of Tabor Morton made between William, Reuben, Mary and Ruth Morton, Abigail Sinclair, Judith Burnell.

1781. Lydia Heath, spinster, administratrix estates of Joseph and Katherine Heath.

— 1782. Will Josiah Clark. Wife, Ruth; children, Reuben and Abigail Gardner.

1782. Jedidah Coffin, administratrix estate of her husband, Benjamin Coffin, mariner.

1782. Jemima Myrick, administratrix estate Isaac Myrick.

1782. Will Abner Coffin. Wife, Desire; son, Jonathan.

1782. Probate will of George Hussey, dated 1764. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Jethro, Paul, Deborah, Lydia, Elizabeth, Ruth, Martha Swain, wife of David; Dinah Folger, wife of Reuben, who had moved to Nova Scotia.

1782. Will of Abigail Swain. Children, John, Nathaniel W., Mary Baxter, Priscilla Coffin and Elizabeth Hawley.

1782. Probate of will of William Russell, who was "aged and infirm." Children, Timothy, Mary Barnard, wife of John; and Ruth Beard, wife of John.

1782. Ann and Roland Gelston, administrators on estate of Samuel Gelston, insolvent.

1782. Will of Barnabas Long. Wife, Priscilla.
1782. Elizabeth Hussey, daughter of Seth, was a minor above the age of fourteen.
1782. Bachelor Hussey was guardian of Seth Jenkins Hussey.
1782. Richard Coffin was an absentee.
1782. Probate of will of Andrew Gardner, "aged and infirm." Children, Elizabeth Green, Stephen, Zachariah, and children who were deceased, Nathaniel, Mary Coleman Solomon. Granddaughter, Lydia Coffin.
1783. Will of Thophilus Pinkham. Wife, Lydia; daughter-in-law, Anna Paddock; granddaughter, Rose Macy; children, Paul, Jethro, Theophilus, David and Mary Clark.
1783. Will of David Swain. Wife, Martha; children, Merab, Lydia, Phebe, Elizabeth, Thaddeus, Valentine, Gilbert, Libni.
1783. Will Mary Nezer, an Indian woman.
1783. Hannah Myrick, administratrix of the estate of her husband, Andrew Myrick, store keeper, £2780.
1783. Jedidah Coffin, widow of Benjamin, was guardian of eight young children.
1783. Probate will of Benjamin Barney. Wife, Huldah; children, Jonathan, Phebe Swain. Brother Jacob and Doreas, his wife.
1783. Jethro Starbuck, father-in-law of Francis Coffin, guardian of Francis Coffin, son of Francis, deceased.
1783. Thomas Coffin, administrator estate of Micah Coffin.
1783. Beulah Coffin, administratrix on estate of her husband, Joshua.
1783. Will of Nathaniel Macy. Wife, Abigail; children, Eunice Coffin, Phebe Barnard, Elizabeth, Shubael, Tristram, George, Nathaniel, Peter, Abishai, Barzillai.
1783. Miriam Macy, widow of Tristram, guardian of four young children.
1783. Will Experience Parker, widow, formerly of Fal-

mouth, descendants: Granddaughters, Hephzibah Parker, Abigail Parker; children, Jerusha Landers, Mary Lake, William Silas and three deceased sons, Jesse, Thomas and Nathaniel.


1783. Jonathan Barnard, Matthew Barnard and Reuben Macy, administrators estate of Hephzibah Barnard.

1783. Administration on estate of Priscilla Long.

1784. Probate will of Francis Swain. Children, Francis, Barnabas, Samuel, Mary, Ruth; grandchildren, Barzillai and Lydia Worth.

1784. Miriam Rand, administratrix of estate of her husband, David Rand.

1784. Will Charles Folger. Sister, Mary Black; kinswoman, Mary Folger; brother-in-law, Jonathan Swain.

1784. Will Richard Chadwick. Wife, Deborah; sons,  Richard, Wiskeliffe, Nathaniel, David; daughter-in-law, Rebecca Chadwick. He owned a schooner.

1784. John Pinkham, administrator estate of Solomon Pinkham.

1784. Will of James Coffin. Wife, Priscilla; children, James, Joshua, Susannah, wife of John Pinkham; Margaret, wife of Jethro Hussey; grandchild, Rebecca, daughter of deceased son Abel.

1784. Thomas and Alexander Gardner, administrators estate of Thomas Gardner.

1784. Will Hannah Barnard, spinster. Kinsman, William Coleman.

1784. Will John Morris, "aged and infirm." Wife, Mary; children, Jacob, Sarah Durland; children of son Jacob, Jonathan, Jacob and John; children of son John, John, Nicholas, Abishai.

1784. Elizabeth Coffin, widow of Silvanus, administratrix of his estate.

1784. Ruth Fish, administratrix of estate of her husband, Stephen Fish.

1784. Will George Gardner. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Jeremiah, George, Elisha, Elizabeth Coffin, Richard Mayo.

1784. Will of John Long. Wife, Joan; children, Jonathan, John, Hannah, wife of Church Clark; Jemima Myrick, Judith, wife of Nathaniel Russell; Elizabeth, Sarah Coffin, wife of Abraham; Robert.

1785. Probate will of Reuben Gardner. Children, Naomi Chase, Shubael, "deceased;" Thaddeus and Reuben; grandchildren, Thaddeus and Reuben Gardner. A legacy to son Shubael "if he should come home again."

1785. Administration on estate of Peleg Gardner, insolvent.

1785. Will Matthew Barnard. Wife, Avis; children, Elizabeth, Patty.

1785. Will Daniel Macy. Wife, Abigail; children, Sylvanus, Lydia, Abigail, Margaret, Uriah.

1785. Will Josiah Gardner. Wife, Eunice.

1785. Will Hephzibah Pinkham, widow, dated 1771. Children, Charles, Benjamin, Abishai, Jephtha, Obed, Abiel, Mary, Shubael, who was 19 and placed under guardianship.

1785. Katherine Pinkham, widow of Benjamin, was appointed guardian of three young children.

1785. Deborah Myrick, widow of Abraham, guardian of her daughter Elizabeth.

1785. Administration on estate of Samuel Calder, peruke maker.

1785. Will of Christopher Hussey. To wife Mary, silver tankard; to daughter Hephzibah, black walnut, leather bottom chairs, silver porringer, looking glass. Other children, Susannah, Lydia, Christopher, Reuben, Margaret, Albert, James, Henry.

1785. Administrator estate Thomas Bunker; administrator estate Zacchariah Gardner.

1785. Will Caleb Swain. Wife, Margaret; children, Margaret Barnard, wife of Nathaniel; Susanna, Anna, Nathaniel, Abigail Macy, Mary Coffin, Sarah Macy, Deborah Folger, two deceased, Silvanus and Judith Worth.

1785. Will Beriah Fitch. Wife, Deborah; children, Jonathan Gorham, Reuben, Eunice Barnard, Lydia Glover,

Parnol Whipple, Phebe Barnes, Lucinda Squires, Deborah Torrey, Puella Newcomb, Jedediah.

1785. Will George Gardner. Wife, Rebecca; children, Rebecca, Lurana, Grafton, George, Barzillai.

1786. Estate Priscilla Long divided between brothers and sisters, Charles Swain, Timothy Swain, Rachel Ramsdell, Hannah Swain, heirs. Lydia Coleman deceased.

1784. Estate of Thomas Gardner, amounting to £1860, went to children, Thomas, Alexander, Zephaniah, Abraham, Anna Fitch, Priscilla Coffin, Eunice Pinkham, deceased, who left four children.

1786. Administration on estate of Mary Carr, widow.

1786. Will Tristram Folger. Wife, Mary; children, Hephzibah, Joseph, Elijah, Jared, Lebbeuns, Amy, Tristram. Mentions a Bible and a will. Three children were under age.

1786. Abigail Coffin, administratrix of estate of her husband Barnabas.

1786. Administration on estate of Jethro Macy.

1786. Will David Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth.

1786. Will Jonathan Barnard. Wife, Mary; children, Hephzibah, William, Jonathan, Libni, Andrew, Cromwell, Tristram, Thomas.

1786. Margaret Bunker, administratrix estate of her husband, Joshua.

1786. Will Samuel Bunker. Wife, Priscilla; children, Mary Coffin, Abigail Coleman, Priscilla Macy, Rachel Swain, Charles, Barnabas, Silas, Elihu, Abishai, deceased.

1786. Will Abraham Pease. Wife, Mary; father, Melatiah; nephew, Abraham; brothers, Melatiah, Joseph, Obed, Barzillai. Inventory, £1620.

1787. Administration on estate of Nathaniel Gardner. His widow, Anna, later married a Fairweather.

1787. Rachel Ramsdell, administratrix estate of her husband, John Ramsdell.

1787. Reuben Gardner had died leaving children, Winifred, over 14, and Reuben and Sarah, under 14. Their mother, Elizabeth, appointed guardian.

1787. Margaret Coffin, administratrix estate of her husband, Bartlett Coffin.

1787. Will Burton Hathaway. Wife, Mary; brother, Woolsey Hathaway. Owned school Friendship.

1787. Andrew Myrick left a son Andrew, over 14; daughters Mary and Hannah; a son Abraham, who died leaving a daughter, Elizabeth.

1787. Will Abigail Coffin, widow of Zephaniah. Children, Paul, Zephaniah, Solomon, Mary, wife of Charles Bunker; Miriam, wife of Richard Macy; Abigail, wife of Solomon Bunker.

1787. Administration on estate Benjamin Barnard to widow, Judith. Inventory £320.

1787. Zacchariah Gardner had died leaving two children. Andrew and Mary, who were minors, and a widow, Phebe, who later married a Coffin.

1787. Will of David Jay, carpenter. To daughter-in-law, Anna Jay, the south end of the house she now occupies. They are to make no demand on my son Francis for work that his brother Reuben did for him. To daughter Sarah Barnard the north end of my house; to daughter Mary Coffin all demands for building her a house; to son David south end of my house. Rest and residue to sons Francis and David. Mentions a granddaughter, Anna Folger.

1787. Will of Elizabeth Spencer. Sons, Gideon, Freeborn and George; grandsons, Thomas Freeborn and Paul Starbuck; son-in-law, Daniel Starbuck.

1787. Will Richard Mitchell. Estate £2600. Had a sail-loft at South wharf. Wife, Sarah; son-in-law, Shubael Coffin; grandson, Mark Coffin; children, James, Richard, Jethro, Joseph, William. Peleg, Eunice Bunker, wife of Richard.

1787. Will Bethuel Gardner. Wife, Katherine; children, Bethuel, Katharine, Anna, Deborah, William, Shubael, Gayer, Charles, Ruth Ramsdell.

1787. Estate of Hephzibah Coffin divided between Charles, Obed, Abishai, Shubael, Benjamin, Mary Pinkham and Abiel

Baker. Hephzibah Coffin was the last wife of Peleg Coffin and mother of said distributees.

1787. Division of estate of Hephzibah Barnard between Matthew, Abishai, Shubael and Elizabeth Barnard, Eunice Gardner, Sarah Ellis, Hepsobeth Mitchell, and the heirs of Jonathan Barnard, Robert Barnard and of Anna Macy.

1787. Will of Abigail Pinkham. Children, Keziah Coffin, Judith Macy, wife of Caleb; Abigail Coffin, Mary Starbuck, wife of William; Daniel Folger.

1788. Administration of estate of Christopher Barnard; administration of estate of Thomas Bunker; administration of estate of Richard Bunker.

1788. Guardian of Laban Bunker, son of Thomas.

1788. Will Daniel Allen. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Daniel and Hephzibah.

1788. Deborah Worth placed under guardianship.

1788. Administration on estate of Robert Barker.

1788. Administration on estate of James Burrage. Widow, Rebecca.

1788. George Macy, son of George, placed under guardianship.

1788. Will Peter Coleman. Brother, Jeremiah.

1788. Will Stephen Chase. Children, Charles, Joseph, Reuben, Zimri, Rebecca, Margaret, Deborah, Miriam, Mary, Abigail Dow, deceased.

1788. Will Matthew Barnard. Children, Ann Nichols, Rose Hussey, Mary Jenkins, Elizabeth Coffin, Hephzibah Paddock, Shubael, Joseph, John, and three deceased, Abigail, Benjamin, Matthew.

1788. Administration on estate of Paul Nye; administration on estate of Mary Smith.

1788. Will of Dinah Jenkins, widow. Children, Paul, Abigail and William. She left three porringers.

1788. Administration on estate of Uriah Gardner.

1788. Seth Hussey had died leaving a son, Seth Jenkins Hussey, 18 years old, and he nominated his brother-in-law, Peter Pollard, guardian.

1789. Dower set off to Judith Barnard, widow of Benjamin.

1789. Will of Peleg Folger. Sisters, Bertha Pinkham and Mary Black; kinswoman, Mary Parker, and kinsman, Silas Folger.

1789. Will of Grafton Gardner. Wife, Abigail; children, George, deceased; Francis, Silas, Eunice Barrett, deceased; Hephzibah Gardner, Jemima Pinkham. He left five daughters and others also not named.

1789. Will of Jonathan Coffin. Wife, Priscilla; children, Daniel, Elizabeth Brockwidow, Hephzibah Waterman, Susanna Folger, Joshua, deceased. Grandchildren, Sally and Gilbert Coffin.

1789. Administration of estate of Peleg Swain.

1790. Will of Stephen Folger. Wife, Jane; brothers, Frederic and Peleg.

1889. Will of Huldah Pitts. Children, William Pitts, Lovey, Silvanus, Elizabeth.

1789. Will of Tristram Starbuck. Wife, Deborah; daughter, Lydia Gardner; grandchildren, Abial Crosby, Caleb Coggeshall, Sarah Coggeshall, Tristram Coggeshall, Job, Peter, Deborah and Christopher Coggeshall.

1789. Administration on estate of Peleg Swain; £560.

1789. Will of Elihu Coleman. Children, Mary Pinkham, William, Abigail Coffin, Phebe Folger; grandson, John Coffin.

1789. Will of Sarah Macy. Children, Jethro, Daniel, Matthew, Eunice Beard, Lydia Jenkins, Sarah Macy.

1790. Simeon and John Russell, administrators of estate of John Russell.

1790. Administration on estate of William Jenkins.

1790. Will of Reuben Giles. Children, Upham, Lurana, Deborah, Abigail, Polly; wife, Lydia.

1790. Will of Barzillai Folger. Wife, Phebe; children, Barzillai, Tristram, Obadiah, Gilbert, Elizabeth, Walter, Nathan, Judith, Barnard, Phebe Jay, Elizabeth, Christopher, deceased.



1790. Estate Thomas Bunker. Children, Richard, deceased; Thomas, Loten, Elizabeth West, Deborah Smith.

1790. Administration on estate of Eliphalet Smith.

1790. Will of Seth Macy. Sister, Judith Clasby; cousins, William, Stephen, Samuel, Jonathan, Barnabas, Peleg and Lydia Macy.

1791. Will of Abigail Gardner. Sisters, Phebe, wife of Obed Coffin; Pegga, wife of Elisha Bunker; brother, Elisha Bunker.

1791. William Jenkins left widow. Dinah, school mistress, and she was appointed guardian of their children, William, Paul and Abigail.

1791. Deborah Clark, administratrix on estate of her husband, Reuben.

1791. Will William Butler. Estate £1460. Wife, Mary. Estate to brothers and sisters not named.

1791. Will of Caleb Gardner. Wife, Thankful; children, Ruel, Margaret Bunker, Deborah, Grindall, Caleb, Phebe Coffin, Ursula Rawson, Rhuhamah Fosdick, Mary Folger.

1790. Hannah Barnard, administratrix of estate of her husband, Abishai.

1791. Eunice Coleman, administratrix estate of her husband, Joseph Coleman.

1791. Peter Jenkins had died leaving as heirs Paul, William and Abigail Jenkins. William was a minor.

1790. Elizabeth Butler, administratrix of estate of her husband, Zebulon.

1790. Administration on estate of William Gardner.

1792. Will Jedidah Folger. Grandson, Obed Pitts. Daughter, Rachel Dodge; daughter Margaret Perry had died leaving five children, Jedidah, William, Miriam, Reuben and Jonathan Perry; grandchildren, Daniel, Cromwell, Abraham, Susannah and Tamer Folger; son Benjamin had died leaving David, Benjamin and Mary Pitts; grandchildren, William and Silvanus Pitts, Love Coffin, Elizabeth Pitts.

1791. Reuben Swain, administrator estate Jethro Swain.

1791. Richard Archand, who came from Chatham, Conn., nominates Thomas Varney McClove as his guardian.

1792. Mary Folger, widow of Frederic, guardian of their son Isaac.

1792. Will John Waterman. Wife, Mary; children, John, Sarah Jenkins, wife of Jonathan. His estate amounted to £455 and included  $\frac{1}{8}$  of sloop Brilliant and paper money of New York, Maryland, Virginia, Carolina and New Hampshire, the latter said to be counterfeit.

1790. Administration on estate of Rachel Ramsdell.

1792. Division of estate of John and Rachel Ramsdell to their children, James, William, John, Sarah Myrick and Eunice Clark.

1792. Abel Gardner had a son Shubael, who had two children, Lydia and Elizabeth, the latter 12. Both placed under guardianship.

1792. Will of Henry Clark. Estate £320. Wife, Mary; children, Henry, Mary Dunham, Elizabeth Willis, Desire Pinkham, Merebah Gardner.

1792. Will of Nathaniel Cory. Mother, Mary; niece, Abigail Russell, daughter Richard and Mary Russell; nephews, James Cory, son of Edward, Samuel, Nathaniel, Edward and Robert Cory; brother, Edward; sister, Sarah Barnard. A large silver tankard given to Samuel.

1792. Will Reuben Swain, 2nd. Wife, Thankful; children not named.

1792. Administration on estate of Barzillai Mary, who left a minor child, Judith.

1793. Venus Peters, a plebeian, had died leaving a child, Henrietta.

1792. Administration on estate of Daniel Roy.

1792. Administration on estate of Cromwell Bunker.

1793. Will Mary Perse. Children, Margaret Wyer, Elizabeth Swain, Lovey Gelston; grandchildren, Michael M. Pinkham, Betsey M. Pinkham, Nancy, Peggy and Polly Coffin.

1793. Will of James Williams. Children, Laban and Anna.

1793. Administration to Phineas Fanning on estate of John Coffin.

1793. Will of Francis Macy. Wife, Judith; children, Francis, Love Cartwright, Phebe Hussey, Judith Coffin, Anna Jenkins, Ruth Folger, Deborah, Lydia, Reuben Macy.

1793. Will Barney Spotso, an Indian. Grandfather was Barney Spotso.

1793. Will Zaceheus Gardner. Wife, Jemima; children not named.

1793. Will of Christopher Stratton. Wife, Abigail; daughter, Hepsabah had died leaving a son, Edward F. Stratton; son-in-law, Thomas B. Harris, had died leaving a son by same name.

1793. Anna Burrell, administratrix estate of her husband James.

1794. Will William Closby. Wife, Judith; brother, Jonathan Macy.

1793. Will John Foster. Wife, Mary; father and mother, Christopher and Mary Foster, in Ireland.

1793. Will of Oliver Spencer. Wife, Judith; children not named. Inventory, £1,562, indicates that he was a store keeper and owned in ships Hero, brig Maria and sloop Sally.

1794. Tristram Cloek had left a will not witnessed. The subject was referred to Zaceheus Macy, who gave his word which is recorded—decided that the estate should be divided between the widow, Deborah, who had married Francis Brown, and the children, Daniel, George, Reuben, who had died leaving heirs, Lydia, Deborah Myrick and Priseilla Paddock.

1794. Will of Benjamin Coffin. Wife, Hannah; children, Elisha, Benjamin, Seth, Bartlett, Eliakim, Rebecca Gardner, Lurana Coffin, Susannah Pinkham, Ruth Coffin. Inventory, £793.

1794. Will of Bartlett Coffin. Father was Benjamin; mother, Hannah; children, Merah, Avis, Christopher, all minors.

1794. Eliakim Coffin had died, leaving widow, Judith, and minor child, Clarissa.

Estate of Richard Bunker, £486, went to widow Eunice, and children, Richard, Lydia Glazier, Jethro, Josiah, Laban, Daniel and Eunice.

1794. Timothy Swain, administrator estate of his son Zaccheus.

1794. Will of David Green. Sisters, Anna and Mary; brothers, Jonathan and Joseph, Jr.; father-in-law, Wm. Hussey.

Estate of Barzillai Macy included the following vessel property: One-sixth schooner Sherborne, ]37; one-twelfth sloop Lydia, £25; one-twelfth sloop Warren, £66; one-fourth brig Polly, £87. Distributed to wife, Elizabeth, and daughter, Judith.

1794. Will Aaron Gardner. Wife, Naomi.

1794. Guardian of Tristram and Love Clark, children of Reuben Clark, deceased.

1793. Abigail Bunker, administratrix estate of her husband, Silvanus.

1794. Parnell Whippey, administratrix estate of her husband, Samuel.

Estate of Bartlett Coffin, £340, included charts, Moore's Navigator, and 1/16 ship Alliance, valued at £87.

1793. Hannah Swain, administratrix estate of her husband, David.

1794. Ruth Fish, guardian of her son, Stephen.

1794. Phebe Williams, daughter of George, placed under guardianship.

1794. Will of Reuben Pollard. Brothers, Jonathan and Peter.

1794. Will Ebenezer Coleman. Wife, Lydia; children, Rachel, Joseph, Christopher, John, Mary.

1794. Will of Elizabeth Gardner. Her father was Obadiah Gardner, and her uncle was John Hall, whose wife was Hepsabah.

1794. James Tupper of Dresden, Lincoln Co., physician, appointed administrator of estate of Dr. Benjamin Tupper. His estate, which was insolvent, included a library of 53

books and land on the Kennebec and at the Cape, which came to him from his father, Eldad.

1794. Abishai Swain, administrator estate of his son, Abishai.

1794. Peter Pollard, administrator estate of his father, George.

1795. Will Capt. Caleb Gardner. Friend, Mary Furlong.

1795. Elisha Hussey, administrator estate Robert Hussey.

1795. Jeremiah Gardner had died leaving Janet, Catherine, Sarah, Ichabod, all minors.

1795. Love Bunker, administratrix estate of her husband, Absalom.

1795. Will Jonathan Jenkins. Wife, Leah, and son, Jonathan.

1795. Division of estate of Peleg Swain between Jedidah Gardner, wife of John, Martha Baker's heirs, Batchelor, Paul, Micajah, Benjamin and Peleg Swain.

1795. Will of Christopher Coleman. Wife, Priscilla; children, Lubin, Miriam, Stephen, David, Phebe, Christopher, Thaddeus, Bethuel.

1795. Will Timothy Coleman. Wife, Mary.

1795. Administration on estate Asa Gardner to widow, Elizabeth.

1795. Paul Folger, administrator estate of his father, Eliphaz.

1795. Will Judith Closby. Brother, Jonathan Macy; cousin, Lydia Macy.

1795. Will of Paul Bunker. Children, Phebe Hussey, wife of Reuben; Hepzibah Homis, wife of Joseph; Dinah Macy, Eunice, Seth and Hezekiah Bunker.

1795. Will of Hannah Bunker, wife of Paul. Legatees same as in his will.

1795. Administration on estate of Justin Starbuck, Jr. Left two minor children, William and Elizabeth. His estate included one-fourth sloop Sally.

1796. Administration on estate of Mary Clark, widow.

1795. Joshua Coffin, administrator on estate of his brother, Laban.

1796. Administration on estate of Timothy Coffin Folger.  
 1796. Will of Nathaniel Gardner. Wife, Ruth. "Our father, George Hussey." Children, Mary, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, heirs; Judith, Albert, Lydia, Eunice.

1796. Administration on estate of Benjamin Alley.

1796. Will of Oliver Prince. Mother, Hannah Barlow, wife of Cato.

1796. Will of Tristram Swain. Children, Phebe Barnard, Lydia, Barnard, Tristram, Margaret Jenkins, heirs.

1796. Administration on estate of Levi Whitney.

1796. Will of Jethro Folger. Wife, Anna; children, Elihu, Aaron Gardner, Lydia Clark, Mary Folger.

1796. Administration on estate of Rev. Bezabel Shaw.

1796. Silas Gardner, guardian of his sister, Hepsibah, insane.

1796. Will of Rachel Bunker, widow of Paul. Children, Silvanus, William, Barnabas and Obed Coleman, sons of Barnabas; Sarah Folger, deceased, who had left a daughter, Rebecca Bunker; Abiel Folger, Rebecca Coffin, who had died leaving two daughters, Abiel Hussey and Rachel Coffin; Judith Worth, Elizabeth Folger, Hepsibah Russell, wife of John.

1796. Ruth Coffin, administratrix estate of her husband, Elijah.

1796. Elizabeth Gardner, daughter of James, was 17.

1796. Will of Tristram Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Tristram, Reuben, Jonathan and Hepzibah.

1796. John Wyer, administrator estate of his son, Shubael.

1797. Administration on estate of Thomas Fox.

Administration on estate of Charles Coffin.

Administration on estate of Elisha Bunker, to brothers Christopher and George.

Administration on estate of Alexander Hussey, to brother Nathaniel.

1797. Will John Meoder. Wife, Hannah; children, Nason had died leaving children, George, Phebe, Swain and John; John, Jonathan, Francis, Thomas, Nicholas, William,

Hannah Coleman, Charity Cleaveland; Abigail Russell.

1797. Francis Brown, administrator estate of Father Francis.

1797. Estate of Eliphaz Folger, divided between Paul Folger, Eunice Alley, Stephen, Rachel and Gorham Folger.

1797. Will of Robert Gardner. Wife, Jedidah; children, Lydia Folger, Anna Swain, Rebecca Paddock, Eunice Macy, Miriam Bunker, Abishai, deceased; Elizabeth Hall, deceased; Robert, Jethro. Prince. Christopher.

1797. Administration on estate of Stephen Rice to his widow, Anna.

1797. Administration on estate of Capt. Brown Folger to his widow, Mary.

1797. Will Daniel Swain. Wife, Nancy; children, James, George, Love Handy.

1797. Will Zaccheus Coffin. Grandchild, Susannah Swain, widow; children, Hezekiah, Zaccheus, Anna Russell, all three deceased; Eunice Paddick, Shubael, Bethia Bunker, Mary, Abraham.

1797. Simeon Macy, son of Latham, was 18.

1797. Will of Zaccheus Macy. Children, Mary Ray, deceased; Hannah Swain, Phebe Stanton, Hephzibah, Priscilla Ray, Ruth Barnard, Deborah Ray, who had died leaving sons Thomas and Charles; Richard, Simeon; grandchildren, Simeon and Deborah Macy; daughter-in-law Lydia, mother of Simeon and Deborah and widow of a deceased son. Latham.

1797. Will of Robert Coffin. Son, Robert, had died leaving widow, Lydia. Mentions grandchildren, Reuben, Jesse, Robert, Rachel, Lydia and Elizabeth Coffin.

1797. Will John Hall. Wife, Hephzibah; children, David, Elizabeth, Jedidah, all minors.

1798. George Swain left children, Phebe Barnard, who had died leaving Eunice, Giles and Henry Barnard; Love Barnard; grandchildren, Love Handy, James and George Swain.

1798. Will of Peleg Swain. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Grafton, Alexander, Mary, Micajah and Peleg.

1798. Will Mary Morton. Niece, Deborah Morton.

1798. Will of Jonathan Macy. Wife, Lois; children, Elizabeth Coleman, Jonathan, Barnabas, Peleg, Samuel, Judith.

1778. Will Caleb Maey. Wife, Judith. Estate \$18,000, including "the grain mill that Barnabas Bunker tends." Children, Elisha, Silvanus, Obed, Caleb, Ruth. Barzellai had died leaving a daughter, Judith. He owned a share in the three mills, Charles Bunker's, Seth Coffin's, and Elisha Gardner's.

1798. Will of John Gardner. Wife, Keziah; children, John, Antipas, Peleg, Micajah, Amaziah, Hepzibah Cole, wife of Jonathan; Lydia Comstock.

1798. Administration on estate of Keziah Coffin, widow to Phineas Fanning.

[Note. In the story of Miriam Coffin, Grimshaw, the lawyer, is supposed to be taken from Fanning, and Miriam to represent Keziah Coffin.]

1798. Will of Alexander Gardner. Wife, Anna; children, Latham, Alexander and Asa.

1798. Abiel Grew, administratrix of estate of her husband, Silas.

1799. Will of Edward Starbuck. Wife, Deborah; children, Paul, William, Mary Cartwright, Matthew, Edward, daughter-in-law Mary Starbuck.

1799. Administration on estate of Catherine Gardner.

1799. Phineas Fanning had died and his wife, Keziah, was appointed administratrix of the estate of her mother, Keziah Coffin.

1799. Elizabeth Starbuck, daughter of Jethro, placed under guardianship.

1799. Will Eliphalet Gardner. Wife, Lydia; children, Owen and Anna; brother, Christopher Gardner.

1799. Administration of estate of Peter Coffin to son-in-law, Tristram Pinkham.

1799. Will of Jonathan Burnell. Children, Sarah Hussey, Judith Folger, wife of Peter; Deborah Jenkins; Susannah Marshall, wife of Obed; Eunice Ramsdell; grandchildren,



Jonathan Burnell, Samuel Burnell, Barker Burnell, sons of Jonathan deceased; Lydia Baxter, Susannah and Deborah Burnell; Alexander and Cyrus Jenkins; Ammiel, Daniel and Laban Hussey; Elizabeth Starbuck and Sarah Hussey. Estate \$34,000.

1799. Judith Macy, a minor, and granddaughter of Caleb Macy, under guardianship.

1799. Will of John Waterman, Jr. Wife, Sarah; children, William, Charles, James and John.

1799. John Starbuck, 16, son of Reuben and Deborah, placed under guardianship.

1799. Tristram Coffin's will. Wife, Mary; children, Thaddeus, Hephzibah and Tristram.

1799. Will Mary Folger. Children, Miriam, Charles, Francis, Isaac, Silas, Mary, Dinah Bunker, Keziah Darling; grandchildren, Isabel Folger and Frederick Folger and Sophia Folger, children of son Frederick.

1799. Will Anna Pinkham. Brothers and sisters, Prince and Elias Coffin, deceased; Micah Woodbury, Love Prior, John Coffin.

1800. Eunice Coleman, 17, George Coleman, Frederick Coleman, son of George, were placed under guardianship.

1800. Will of George Coleman. Grandchildren, Eunice and Frederick Coleman; daughter-in-law, Hephzibah Smith, wife of John.

1800. Will of Reuben Worth. Children, Lydia Worth and Elizabeth Gardner; granddaughters, Mary Mitchell and Lydia Worth.

1800. Benjamin Bunker, administrator estate of his mother, Mary Bunker.

1800. Hepsobeth Gardner, insane.

1800. Will Seth Bunker. Owned one-sixteenth ship Beaver. Brothers and sisters, Eunice Fitch, Hephzibah Harris; Dinah Macy had died leaving five children, Dinah, Daniel, Hezekiah, Jethro, William; Phebe Hussey; Hezekiah Bunker; nephew, Charles Hussey, and niece, Hannah Hussey. Seth Bunker owned a rope walk.

1800. Division of estate of Caleb Macy made between Elisha Macy, Silvanus Macy, Obed Macy, Caleb Macy, Ruth Chase, Judith and Elizabeth. Judith Macy was widow of Caleb.

1799. Elizabeth Delano, administratrix of estate of her husband, Thomas. Owned one-sixteenth ship Hercules.

1799. Thaddeus Gardner, insane.

1800. Will of Wm. Long. Wife, Elizabeth.

1800. Will Peter Coffin. Wife, Anna; son-in-law, George Lawrence; grandchildren, Elizabeth Hayden, Lydia Myrick, Peter Coffin Myrick, David and George Myrick.

1800. Administration on estate of Nathaniel Folger.

1804. Eunice Perry, administratrix of estate of her husband, Reuben.

1800. Will Anna Jenkins. Mother, Lydia Jenkins.

Will Sarah Macy. Sister, Lydia Jenkins, and daughter, Anna Jenkins.

1800. Administration on estate of Benjamin Baxter.

1801. Will Priscilla Coleman. Father, Samuel Coffin; brother, Peter Coffin; children, Stephen, Miriam Rand, Phebe Coffin, William; granddaughter, Lydia Rand.

1801. Christopher Folger, administrator estate of his mother, Susannah Folger.

1801. Administration on estate of Henry Clark to Hannah Swain, his mother-in-law.

1801. Will of William Coleman. Wife, Eunice; children, Elihu, Mary, Jemima Paddock, Ruth Paddock, Anna.

1801. Elizabeth Gardner, administratrix estate of her husband, Grindall.

1801. Christopher Hussey had an estate of \$4,300, including one-fourth mill kept by Barnabas Bunker.

1801. Will Abigail Smith. Children, Eunice Folger, Mehitable Hussey, Anna Folger, George Smith, Daniel, Elisha. Eliphalet had died leaving Benjamin, Reuben, Eliphalet, Lydia Smith.

1801. Mary Cox, an insane person.

1801. Rhoda Russell, administratrix on estate of her husband, Joseph.

1801. Ephraim Coffin, administrator estate of his son, Robert.

1801. Elihu Marshall, administrator estate of his brother, Thomas.

1801. Will Ruth Coffin. Children, Abigail Gardner, Eunice Coleman, Mary Fosdick, Obed, Timothy; grandchildren, Salome Amerman, Hannah Coffin, Fanny June, Caleb Coffin.

1801. Administration on estate of Joseph Bunker.

1801. Eunice Coffin, administratrix estate of her husband, Asa.

1802. Essex Boston, administrator estate of his son, Peter.

1801. Will Benjamin Fosdick. Wife, Lydia; children, Benjamin, Peter, James, Lydia Coffin, wife of Henry; Sarah Coffin, wife of Jonathan; Mary Rathbon; Priscilla, Anna.

1802. Will Simeon Hussey. Wife, Abigail; children, Obed, Priscilla, Thomas, Peter, Benjamin.

1802. Administration on estate of Jonathan Barney.

1802. George Franklin, son of Benjamin, under guardianship.

1802. Will Benjamin Coffin. Brother, Joseph; sisters, Love, deceased; Jane Ramsdell; cousins, Obed, Timothy, Ebenezer and Alexander Cobb; Abigail Gardner, widow of James; Eunice Coleman, widow; Mary Fosdick, widow of Benjamin.

1802. Barnabas and Abiel Macy had four children, Joseph, 17; George, Lydia, Mary.

1802. Administration on estate of Barnabas Macy.

1802. Administration on estate of William Moores.

Administration on estate of Obed Marshall.

Administration on estate of Ebenezer Raymond.

Inventory of estate of Jonathan Barney included one-eighth ship Union, \$800; one-fourth ship Hero, \$500.

1802. Betsey Coffin, administratrix estate of her husband, Joseph.

1802. Administration on estate of Benjamin Jones.

1802. Alexander and Lucretia Clark, children of Isaiah, placed under guardianship.

Inventory of estate of Ebenezer Raymond included three-eighths sloop Success, \$390; one-half brig Eliza, \$2,000; one-half share in Academy; pew No. 48 in Meeting House.

1802. Henry Dow had died, leaving wife Mary; children, Sally, Samuel, Elizabeth Grogins, Reuben.

1802. Division of estate of Cromwell and Ruth Coffin among James Gardner, Obed Coffin, Benjamin Fosdick, Eunice Coleman.

1803. Estate of Christopher Hussey, distributed between Susanna Folger, Edmund Cory, Reuben Hussey, Jethro Hussey, Albert Hussey, James Hussey, George Athearn.

1803. Administration on estate of George Harris.

1788. Division of estate of Samuel Bunker. To Charles Bunker, one eighth of mill; to Barnabas, Silas and Elihu, two-eighths middle mill; to Abishai Bunker, one-eighth west mill.

1803. Barnabas Swain, administrator estate of his son, Frederick.

Division of estate of Jonathan Barney between Griffin Barney, Jonathan J. Barney, Judith, Mary, Abigail and William Barney.

1803. Anna Moores, daughter Wm. and Lucinda Moores, placed under guardianship.

1803. Will Charles Swain. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Phebe Coffin, Zaccheus. Charles, Elizabeth Ray, Priscilla Brown; heirs of Walter Swain, deceased.

1803. Jacob Alley declared insane.

1803. Paul Worth, administrator estate of his father, John.

1803. Jethro Mitchell, brother of Moses, whose will was probated.

1803. Sally Dow, 15, daughter of Henry Dow, deceased, under guardianship.

1803. Nathan Nye declared insane.

1803. Will of James Gardner. Wife, Abigail; brothers, Thaddeus and Nathan.

1803. Will of William Pinkham. Children, Sarah, Phebe: grandchildren, Nancy, Betsy and George Pinkham.

1803. Will Benjamin Barney. Wife, Lois; children, Eunice, Lydia, Peter, Matthew, Daniel.

1803. Will Josiah Barker. Children, Josiah, Samuel, Eunice Coffin, wife of Peleg; Elizabeth Rotch, Hepsibah Hammet, wife of William. Mentions Dr. Peter Easton.

1803. Mary Brown, administratrix estate of her husband, Frederick.

1803. Administration on estate of John Barnard.

1803. Anna Hussey, administratrix of estate of her husband, Daniel.

1803. Zilpha Wright, administratrix of estate of her husband, Thomas T.

1804. George G., Edward, William F., Mary and Phebe Hussey, children of Uriel and Phebe Hussey, placed under guardianship. Uriel had died.

1804. Administration on estate of William Brock.

1804. Administration on estate of Raymond Ellis.

1804. Estate of Caleb Gardner made to Obed Coffin, Wilson Rawson, Deborah Gardner, Peter Fosdick, and heirs of Grindall Gardner.

1804. Lucretia, Charles, Lydia, Nancy, Eliza and Sally Gardner, children of Elizabeth Gardner and her husband, Alexander, deceased, placed under guardianship.

1804. Will of Nathaniel Coleman. Wife, Hephzibah; children, Sarah Barney, Lydia Macy, Abraham; grandson, Robert Gardner Coleman.

1804. Will of Priscilla Gardner. To Abigail Fitch, wife of Ebenezer, one-half pew 19 in Congregational Meeting House, given me by my father, John Gardner.

Brother John Gardner had three daughters, Mary Gardner, wife of Shubael; Abigail Fitch, wife of Ebenezer, and Priscilla.

1804. Will Deborah Starbuck. Children, Isaac Coffin, Thomas Coffin, Jr., and Deborah Coffin.

1804. Administration on estate of Elijah Williams.

Administration on estate of Timothy Wyer.

1804. George, over 14, Alexander and Lucretia Clark, children of Isaiah, deceased, minors, placed under guardianship.

1804. Will Enoch Ray. Wife, Priscilla; nephews, Charles and Thomas.

1804. Will of Sarah Clark. Children, William, Hepso-bah Grew and Lucinda Marshall.

1804. Polly Aldridge, administratrix estate of her husband, Obed.

1804. Abiel Hussey, administratrix estate of her husband, Christopher.

1804. Will Eben Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth.

1804. Will Benjamin Swift. Wife Elizabeth; children not named.

1804. Will David Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Phebe Toy, deceased; Miriam Hobbs; Jemima Morton; Ruth, Elihu, Gideon, daughter-in-law Susannah Coffin, widow of son Seth; grandchildren, who were children of son Seth, David, Obadiah, Zimri, Gideon, Mary Starbuck, Phebe Gifford, Elizabeth Drummond, Miriam Hussey.

1804. Estate of Jonathan Macy included tan yard vats and mill.

1804. Administration on estate of Silvanus Smith.

1804. Will of Shubael Pinkham. Wife, Mary; children, Abigail, Eunice, Ruth, Anna, Shubael, David, Phebe, Meroh.

1804. Will Mary Swain, widow of Daniel Swain. Children, Mary Folger, wife of Elihu; Jonathan Chase, Isaac Chase; granddaughter, Anna Bunker; son-in-law James Swain and his brother George Swain, and his sister, Love Handy; father-in-law George Swain; kinsman Grafton Swain.

1804. Benjamin Gardner, son of Levi, 20 years old, placed under guardianship.

1804. Administration on estate of Reuben Coffin.

1804. Will of William Folger. Wife, Susan; children, Maria Ann, William A. and Betsey Folger, "whom I call and acknowledge as my daughter."

1804. Will of George Hussey. Wife, Deborah; son-in-law, Tristram Folger. Children, Rhoda Folger had died, leaving Deborah, Phebe, Lucretia and Lydia; Eunice Easton; George G. Hussey; Uriel had died leaving George Gardner, Edward, William, Mary and Phebe; Silvanus; Susannah Gardner, Deborah Brayton; Rachel Hussey.

“All debts against my children to be balanced by a dash of the pen.” He owned in ship Mary Ann, and had land at Cambridge.

1804. Will Barnabas Paddock. Wife, Abigail.

1805. Administration on estate of Joseph Clasby.

1805. Will Paul Folger. Sisters, Eunice Alley, Rachel; brother, Stephen.

1803. Paul Worth, administrator estate of Joseph Worth.

1805. Will John Coleman. Wife, Ann; brother, Barnabas, had died leaving children, Silvanus, William, Barnabas, John; son, Obed, had died leaving child, Joseph Gorham.

1805. Administration on estate of Francis Baxter.

Administration on estate of Abigail Aldridge.

Administration on estate of Peter Pinkham to his widow, Desire.

1805. Rachel Folger, sister of Paul, deceased, declared insane.

1805. Will Jonathan Swain. Wife, Margaret; children Jonathan, Hezekiah, Albertus, Frederick; grandsons, Ruel Swain and Paul Swain.

1805. Will of Charles Barnard. Wife, Susanna.

1805. Will of William Hussey. Wife, Abigail; children, William, Paul, Seth, deceased; Elizabeth Coffin had died leaving Katherine Clark, Sarah Jones and Silvanus Coffin; Katherine Coleman, Ruth Swain, Ann Hussey; grandchild, Elizabeth Starbuck.

1805. Will James Fosdick. Sisters, Priscilla and Anna.

1805. Heirs of Joseph Brown were Joseph Brown, Silvanus Coleman, Francis Macy, Phebe Coleman, Elizabeth Macy, Joseph Cartwright.

1805. Will of Batchelor Hussey. Wife, Ann; children,

Tristram, Zacheus, Peter, Lydia Coffin, Elizabeth Chase. Owned candleworks.

1805. Seth Hussey had died leaving Abraham and Sally, minor children.

1805. Administration on estate of Nathaniel Coffin.

Administration on estate of William Barnard.

1804. Asa Gardner and Elizabeth had three children, George G., 8; Susanna, 16; Obed, 14.

1805. Will of Elizabeth Swain, widow of Charles. Children, Charles, Zacheus, Nathan and Elisha, both deceased; Elizabeth Ray, Priscilla Brown, Phebe Coffin.

Elizabeth, George and Eunice Raymond were minor children of Ebenezer Raymond, deceased, and his wife, Elizabeth.

1805. Lucretia Swain, daughter of Howes Swain, deceased, placed under guardianship.

1805. Will of Samuel Long. Wife, Sarah; child, Obed, had died leaving child, Lydia.

1805. Administration on estate of Seth Gardner.

1805. Elizabeth Coleman, administratrix estate of her husband, Davis Coleman.

1805. Sarah Closhy, administratrix estate of her husband, John Closhy, Jr.

1805. Will Judith Barker. Sisters, Phebe Wheeler, Elizabeth Baley, Deborah Barker.

1805. Administration on estate of Samuel Barker.

1805. Anna Bunker, a minor over 14.

1805. Administration on estate of Jacob Carr.

Administration on estate of Albro Longden.

Administration on estate of Daniel Black.

1805. Will of Joseph Coffin. Wife, Judith; children, Zephaniah, Matilda, Merab, Myriek.

1805. Thomas Marshall had four minor children, Polly, Susanna, Lydia and Thomas.

1805. Lovey Coffin placed under guardianship.

1805. Administration on estate of Stephen Hussey, valued at \$7,000.



1806. Will of Elisha Macy. Niece, Judith Coffin.

1806. Will of Jethro Starbuck. Wife, Ann; children, Ann, Paul, Phebe. Jethro had died, leaving William and Elizabeth.

1806. Will Stephen Coffin. Wife, Mary; children, Stephen, Job, Noah, Alpheus, Elizabeth Closhy, Phebe Ray; granddaughters, Lydia and Mary Closhy.

1805. Administration on estate of William Morton.

1806. Lydia Bunker, administratrix estate of her husband, Peleg.

1806. John Brock, barber, administrator estate of John Brock.

1806. Administration on estate of Reuben Luce.

1806. Winifred Tupper, administratrix estate of her husband, Benjamin.

1806. Administration on estate of James Sprywood, colored.

1806. Will Job Swain, laborer. Children, Lydia Harris, Job, Love, Wealthy, David, Rowland. Lydia, Lovey and Wealthy were minors.

1806. Abigail Atkins's will. Children, James and Sally.

1806. Will David Giles. Wife, Love; children, David, George, Eunice.

1806. Will Jonathan Gardner. Children, Phebe, Huldah and Miriam.

1806. Will of Jethro Dunham, son of Jethro and Lydia. Sister, Elizabeth. David Coffin, schoolmaster, trustee.

1806. Administration on estate of George Pitman.

1806. Administration on estate of Jonathan Ramsdell.

1806. Administration on estate of Priscilla Ramsdell.

1806. Administration on estate of Elizabeth Green.

1806. Administration on estate of John Barnfield.

1806. Administration on estate of Moses Bunker.

1807. Administration on estate of Nathaniel Whippey.

1807. Administration on estate of John H. Swain.

1807. Will William Ray. Wife, Elizabeth; children not named.

1807. Elizabeth Coleman, administratrix estate of her husband, Davis Coleman.

1807. Administration on estate of Thomas Nicholson.

1807. Rebecca Cottle, administratrix of her husband, Obed.

1807. John Swift, Jr., administrator estate of Jonathan Swift.

1807. Will Nathaniel Wyer. Wife, Sally.

Will Nathan Nye. Wife, Phebe.

1807. Will William Starbuck. Sister Elizabeth.

1807. Will of Reuben Swain. Wife, Hannah; children, Deborah Coleman, Rebecca Coleman, James, Shubacl, Margaret, Hepsibah Coffin, Jemima, Franklin, Hannah Ellis, Ruth Swain, John, Daniel; grandchildren, Elizabeth Mott, George Swain, Henry Swain.

1807. Administration on estate of Waldo Colesworthy.

1807. Solomon Smith declared insane.

1807. Hugh Wyer declared a spendthrift.

1807. Will Moses Starbuck, son of Silvanus. Wife, Bethia; children, Henry, Mary H. and Moses, all minors.

1807. Will Richard Swain. Wife, Anna; children, Elizabeth Jones, wife of Benjamin, deceased; Richard Gardner Swain, Hephzibah Freeman, Anna Starbuck.

1807. Lydia Bunker, widow of Peleg, applied for dower.

1807. Susannah Folger, administratrix of estate of her husband, Francis.

1807. Abigail Rawson, administratrix estate of her husband, Stephen.

1807. William Swain, administrator estate of his father, Samuel.

1807. Will Ann Gelston. Children, Roland, Thomas, William, Oliver, Elizabeth Bunker, wife of John. Mother Grissel Cotton. She owned the house and lot formerly of Bezabel Shaw.

1807. Will Nathan Waldron. Wife, Patience; children, Jemima, Lydia, Eunice, Deborah, Winslow, Robert, Roland, Reuben.

1807. Will of John Ray. Wife, Judith; children, Paul, Hephzibah Clark, George, who had died leaving daughter Lydia; Daniel, Samuel, Charles, Alexander, John, deceased; Silvanus.

“I have given in my lifetime what I desired, to the children of my first wife.”

1807. Will George Ray. Wife, Deborah; child, Lydia.

1807. Will Seth Folger. Children, Shubael, Seth, Thomas, deceased; Phebe Allen; Jemima Mitchell; grandchildren, Judith Folger, Elizabeth Clark.

1807. Elizabeth Calef, administratrix estate of her husband, Ebenezer, valued at \$11,600, which included one-half a pew in the Meeting House valued at \$40. His children were Love, Uriah, John, Elizabeth, all minors.

1807. Will Edward Tillett Emmett, schoolmaster. Children, John, Hannah and Elizabeth.

1806. Will Christopher Bunker. Wife, Abigail; children, Christopher, Jesse, Merab and Persis.

1808. Will Sarah Barney. Sister, Phebe Swain; brother, Jonathan Barney; nephews, Jacob, Albert and Griffin, Robert and William Coffin, Benjamin and Isaac Barker; nieces, Elizabeth Rodman, Lydia and Eunice Macy; nephews, William Macy, Matthew Barney, Daniel and Samuel Starbuck; sisters, Lois Barney, Doreas Brown and Elizabeth Rotch.

1808. Dower claimed by Abial Hussey, widow of Christopher.

1804. George Pinkham, son of George, under guardianship.

1808. Will of Susanna Whippey. Daughter, Lovey.

1808. Will Jethro Hussey. Widow, Margaret; children, Josiah, Susanna Plumb, Betsey Riddell, wife of William; Peggy Wyer, wife of William.

1808. Rachel Paddock, widow of Jonathan, administratrix of his estate.

1808. Will Jonathan Perry. Wife, Mehitable; children, Sophronia and Samuel R.

1808. Daniel and George Giles, sons of Daniel, placed under guardianship.

1808. Administration on estate of Thomas Barnard.

1808. Will of Jacob Chandler. Wife, Anna, who had a son-in-law, Elijah Baldwin; children, Stockbridge, Ruth Allen, Medbury, Samuel Vial Chandler, Sally, Bathsheba, Benjamin and Abigail.

1808. Will Jesse Bunker. Wife, Eunice; children not named.

1808. Elizabeth Gardner, widow of Barzillai, administratrix of his estate.

1808. Lydia Gardner, widow of Francis, administratrix of his estate.

1808. Will of Albert Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth.

1808. Administration on estate of Elial Coffin.

Administration on estate of Reuben Folger.

1808. Pamela Gardner, widow of Eliakim, administratrix of his estate.

1808. Will of Peter Folger, merchant. Wife, Patience; children, Uriah, Peter, Charles, Sally, Deborah, Susanna; grandchildren, Lucretia Swain, Josiah Starbuck, Peter Emer. Estate \$33,000.

1808. Will Francis Worth. Children, Richard, Benjamin, Lydia, Tamar; grandsons, Reuben and Thomas.

1808. Administration on estate of Anna Hunter, maiden.

1808. Ann Hotch, widow of Charles, administratrix of his estate.

1808. Administration on estate of Thomas Nicholson.

Administration on estate of Nathaniel Whiffly.

Administration on estate of James Mills.

1808. Elizabeth Swain, daughter of Peleg, under guardianship.

1808. Alexander and Rachel Swain, children of Alexander and Rachel Swain, under guardianship.

1808. Thaddeus Parker, a minor, placed under guardianship.

1808. Administration on estate of Peleg Bunker.

1807. Heirs of Davis Coleman were Keziah Overtore, Lovey Whipple, wives of Samuel Riddell, Benjamin Slade, Charles Chase and John Eldred, and the heirs of Huldah Dow, who were Silvanus and William Pitts, and the wives of Matthew Barney, Alpheus Coffin and Israel Brightman.

The inventory of the estate of Benjamin Swift included three-thirty-seconds of ship Fame, \$656.

1809. Administration on estate of Joseph Gardner.

1809. Lettice Summons, colored, under guardianship.

1809. Lydia Gardner, widow of Samuel, administratrix of his estate.

1809. Guardianship over David and Rowland Swain, sons of Job, who were minors; and over daughters, Lydia Harris and Love Swain, who were spendthrifts.

1809. David Cottle was administrator estate of Obed Cottle. Nancy Cottle was a minor child of Obed.

1809. Administration estate of Enoch Coffin.

Administration estate of Thomas Coffin.

Administration estate of William Butler.

1810. In the estate of Wickeliffe Chadwick was schooner Lively. Widow Priseilla. Nathaniel Chadwick, gentleman, administrator.

1809. Will of George Folger. Wife, Rebecca; children, Philip Howland, Samuel Brown, Peleg Slocum, Susanna Pell, George Gill; Sarah Chase, who had died leaving children, Eliza Brown and Sarah Folger Chase.

1809. Guardians of minor children of Jonathan Burnell, Jr., who were Jonathan and Barker.

1809. Will of Senaea Boston. Wife, Thankful; children, Joseph, Hannah and Freeborn.

1809. Eunice Fitch, widow of George, administratrix of his estate; \$24,000, including one-fourth ship Fame.

1809. Administration estate of Renalds Austin.

Administration estate of Gersham Drew.

Administration estate of Peter Folger.

Administration estate of Quack Te, colored.

Administration estate of John Wyer.

Administration estate of Philip Fosdick.

1809. Deborah Folger, daughter of Peter, was insane.

1809. Will of Jonathan Myrick. Wife, Deborah.

1809. Administration on estates of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Colef, whose children were Eliza, Love, Uriah and John. Including one-half pew in First Congregational Meeting House, \$40.

1809. Will of John Fosdick. Wife, Elizabeth; children, William, David, Mary Chadwick. Elizabeth Coffin, Sally Pease; son Philip had died leaving children, Frederic, Lucretia, Elizabeth. Philip. Anna, Hepsobeth; daughter Katherine Alley had died leaving Alfred. Obed, George and Katherine.

1809. Guardian of Jacob Alley, a spendthrift.

Guardian of Phebe and Anna Bunker, minors.

1809. Estate Freeman Ellis, administration.

1809. Children of Jonathan Perry, Jr., placed under guardianship. Sophronia, Samuel, William, Benjamin B.

1810. Administration estate of Thomas Barnard.

Administration estate of Jethro Hussey.

Administration estate of Job Swain.

1810. Will of Abishai Macy. Wife, Phebe; children, Frederick, Henry, Mary and others not named.

1810. Betsey Bunker, widow of John, administratrix of his estate.

1810. Administration on estate of Jonathan Swain.

1810. Administration on estate of Charles Bunker.

In the estate of George Folger, valued at \$8,000, was one-eighth of ship Rebecca, \$750; one-fourth brig Ocean; and five-sixteenths schooner Happy Couple, \$1,560.

1810. Guardian of children of Simeon Hussey, Thomas, Alfred, Peter and Benjamin Russell Hussey.

1810. Hepsobeth Gardner, widow of Peleg, administratrix of his estate.

1810. Susan Nichols, widow of Edward, administratrix of his estate.

Estate of Gersham Drew was valued at \$16,000, and included one-eighth of ships Perceveranda and Fame.

1810. Administration estate of Jethro Coffin Brock.

Administration estate of Allen Howland.

Administration estate of Jonathan Swain.

1810. Will of Lydia Pinkham, widow of Thuel. Children, George Ramsdell Pinkham and Thomas Pinkham.

1810. Estate of Thomas Barnard included one-eighth ship Elias, \$250; one-eighth ship Rebecca, \$750; seven-fortieths ship Industry, \$875.

1810. Administration estate of Thankful Coffin.

Administration estate of Samuel Coffin.

Administration estate of John Gardner.

Administration estate of Richard Chadwick.

1810. Guardian of Mary and Elizabeth Paddock, children of Francis and Mary Paddock.

1810. Will Mary Mitchell, widow. Brothers, Jethro and Peleg Mitchell. Brother Elias Calendar had died, leaving a daughter, Mary Olney. Sister Elizabeth English had died, leaving daughters Jane Park, Eliza Turner and Priscilla Cooper who had died. Nephews, Obed, Laban, Benjamin and David Mitchell. Mentions Doreas Brown, wife of William; Sarah Robinson, wife of Thomas, and Mary Williams, wife of David.

1810. Administration estate of Francis Paddock.

1810. Administration estate of Thomas Delano.

1810. Administration estate of James Sprywood.

1810. Administration estate of Ephraim Coffin.

Administration estate of Tobias Simmons, colored.

1810. Will of Thomas Clark. Daughter Elizabeth, but other children not named.

1810. Will of Caleb Bunker. Wife, Eunice, and children, Uriah and Eunice.

1808. Guardian for minor children of Jonathan Paddock, Mary, Eunice and Henry.

1810. Susanna Macy, administratrix of the estate of her husband, Edmund.

1810. Will Uriah Swain. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Betsy Carey, John, Alexander, Lydia, Edward, Winifred, Charles. Estate \$10,000 included one-half sloop Lively.

Guardian for William Hussey, son of Silvanus.

Lydia Smith, widow of John, administratrix his estate.

1810. Will Abigail Macy, widow of Nathaniel. Children, Shubael, Tristram, Abishai, Phebe Worth, Elizabeth; grandchildren, Solomon Coffin, George Coffin, Abigail Allen, Eunice Gardner.

Eunice Gardner, widow of Josiah, administratrix his estate.

Guardian for Anna and Charles H. Fitch, children of George.

Estate of Freeman Ellis divided between the wives of John Sherman, James Stubbs, Stephen Innis, Thomas Davenport, Zilpha Wright, Elizabeth Gardner and Deborah Brown.

1811. Will of George Gorham Hussey. Wife, Lydia; but children not named. Estate included one-third schooner Maria, \$800.

1811. Peggy Coffin, widow of Alfred, administratrix his estate.

1811. Will of Andrew Brock. Wife, Eunice. To kinsman John Brock the family Bible that came from my father, Thomas Brock.

1811. Will Reuben Alley. Wife, Susanna; daughter, Catherine; other children not named.

1811. Administration estate of Richard Gardner. Administration estate of Obed Hussey. Wife, Abiel. Guardian for Susanna, minor daughter of Elizabeth Swain and her deceased husband. Uriah.

1811. Will of Abigail Gardner, widow of James. Sisters, Eunice Coleman and Mary Fosdick.

1810. The heirs of Abigail Macy were daughters Elizabeth, Elizabeth Worth; Abigail Allen, and granddaughters Mary Ramsdell and Eunice Gardner.

1811. Division of estate of Wickliffe Chadwick among Seth, Timothy, Sally, Benjamin and George Chadwick, Deborah Coffin, wife of Andrew; Mary Hilborn, wife of Charles, Jr., and heirs of Priscilla Hilborn.



1811. Susanna Brown and Edward Brown, administrators estate of Joseph Brown, \$12,000, included one-sixteenth ship Rebecca, \$800; colok, \$40.

1811. Will of John Clasby. Wife, Ruth; children, Joseph, Phebe, John. Lot, Rhoda, Charles, Reuben, Ruth; granddaughter, Elizabeth Clasby.

1811. Administration estate of John Clasby.

1811. Administration estate of Princee Stafford, colored.

1811. Administration estate of Nathan Chase. Administration estate of George Whippey.

1811. Will of Jonathan Barney. Wife Abiel; father-in-law, Barnabas Coffin; children, David, Benjamin, Nathaniel, Samuel, Obed, Eunice.

1811. Will of William Ramsdell. Wife, Mary; daughter, Phebe; other children not named.

1811. Will of Josiah Coffin, gentleman. Wife, Elizabeth; children, James, Josiah, Judith Brock, and granddaughter, Judith Gardner.

1811. Division of estate of Gershom Drew among Gershom, Ebenezer, Alexander, Charles, William, Polly Coffin, wife of Job; Sally Hussey, wife of Peter.

Eunice Whippey, widow of George, guardian of their children, Mary and Ann.

1811. Will of Timothy Chadwick. Mother was Priscilla.

1811. Administration estate of Paul Littlefield.

1811. Will of Patience Waldron. Children, Winslow, Roland, Reuben, Deborah Catheart; sister, Ann Coleman, wife of Jeremiah; grandchildren, who were children of Winslow, Ann, Elizabeth, Charles, Reuben, Nathan; and daughter of Roland, Eunice; kinsman of said Patience, Lucinda Swain, wife of Palatiah; Nabby Russell, wife of Elihu; Lydia Taber, wife of Francis; Nabby Russell, wife of William, who is my nephew.

1811. Will of Christopher Folger. Wife, Rachel; sister, Peggy Gardner, had a daughter Rebecca.

1811. Will David Ray. Wife, Eunice.

1811. Guardian of sons of Simeon Hussey and grandsons of Obed Hussey, Peter Hussey and Benjamin Russell Hussey.

1811. Will Mary Butler. Kinsman, Jonathan Jenkins, and nieces, Bethia Worth, wife of Shubael, and Eunice Maey, wife of Uriah.

1811. Will Peleg Easton. Wife, Eunice; children not named.

1811. Administration estate of Grafton Baker. Administration estate of Israel Brayton. Administration estate of John Hazelton Baley.

1811. Division of estate Thomas Delano. Widow, Elizabeth; children, Henry, Thomas, Abishai, William, Elizabeth Howland, wife of Humphrey; Deborah Swift, wife of Foster, and Sally Fiteh, wife of Beriah.

1811. Administration estate George Fitch, \$16,000.

1811. Will of James Stubbs. Wife, Rebecca; children, Benjamin, Charles, Rebecca McCleave, Peggy Raymond, Betsey Ellis, Avis Arthur, Nancy Coffin, Mille Jenkins, Sally Maey.

1812. Will of Silas Jones. Wife, Judith; daughter Judith and other children not named.

1812. Will Benjamin Cartwright. Wife, Abigail; daughter Lois Bunker. His house was built by Wm. Coffin.

1812. Will of Richard Cary. Wife, Margaret; brother Edward had sons, Charles Russell and William Stevens Cory, and brother Samuel had sons Samuel and Nathaniel Coffin Cory.

1810. Will Matthew Worth. Children Abigail, William, Matthew, Hepsobah. Wife of Nathaniel Sherman.

1812. Will of John Gardner, sheriff. Wife, Jedidah; children, Priscilla, John, Abigail, Fiteh and Mary.

1812. Estate John Gardner passed to heirs of Peleg Gardner. Hepsabeth Gardner, administratrix Hepsabeth Colesworth, wife of Jonathan; Lydia Comstock, Antipas, Micajah and Amaziah Gardner, Keziah, wife of Josiah Sheffield; Sally Coffin, wife of Frederick; Sophia Swain, wife of David, Jr., Betsey Winslow.

1812. Administration estate Timothy Horsefield, store-keeper.

1812. Administration estate Thomas Harrex.

1812. Administration estate Charles Harrex.

1812. Administration estate Matthew Barnard.

1812. Guardian for Israel Horsefield.

1812. Will Judith Coffin. Children, Zacchariah, Matilda, Merah Myrick; grandsons, Abraham and Matthew Coffin.

1812. Will of Sylvanus Coleman. Wife, Phebe; children, Frederick W., Benjamin F., Richard Lake, Sarah Coffin.

1812. Jonathan Folger. Children, Peregrine, Obed, Hezekiah, Lydia Coleman, wife of Andrew; Mary Chase, wife of Gilbert.

1812. Will Zephaniah Gardner. Wife, Thankful; brothers and sisters, Thomas, Abraham, Alexander, deceased; Eunice Pinkham, deceased; Anna Fitch, Priscilla Coffin.

1812. Administration of estate of Timothy Chadwick.

1812. Administration of estate of Nathaniel Starbuck.

1812. Administration of estate of Joseph Wyer.

1812. Administration of estate of Robert Closby.

1812. Will of William Chadwick. Wife, Mary; children, Obed, William, Mary Bunker; grandsons, Frederick Chadwick, Nancy Chadwick, and children of deceased son Reuben.

1812. Abigail Swain, widow of Valentine, administratrix of his estate.

1812. Administration estate Edward C. Hussey.

Administration estate Obed Gardner.

Administration estate Edward Cory.

1812. Will Abigail Macy, widow of Benjamin. Nephew, Benjamin Brown. Brother, Joseph Brown, deceased, had left children, Phebe Coleman, wife of Silvanus; Elizabeth Maey, wife of Francis; Priscilla Cartwright, wife of Joseph; Joseph had deceased.

1812. Elizabeth Folger, widow of Henry, administratrix of his estate.

Elizabeth Mitchell, widow of Laban, administratrix of his estate.

Deborah Barker, widow of Francis, administratrix of his estate.

1812. Will Ann Coleman. Sister, Abigail Allen, widow of Benjamin; niece, Elizabeth Randall, wife of Constant.

Estate of Edward Cory, valued at \$66,000, and included silver tankards, pew in North church, rope walk, ship "Samuel" that cost \$8800, and mansion valued at \$6200.

1813. Administration estate Lydia Baxter.

1813. Will David Ray. Wife, Anna; children not named but were Anna, Peleg, Barzillai, Mary, Frederic, Sarah, Lydia.

1813. Will Isaiah Coffin. Wife, Sarah; children, Moses, Reuben, Jared, Benjamin, Eliza, Christopher F. and Franklin.

1811. Guardian for Eunice Bunker, child of Peleg.

1811. Hepsabah Fosdick, widow Philip, administratrix his estate.

1811. Pamela Gardner, guardian of her children, Timothy Myrick and Nathan Bunker Gardner.

1813. Will Peleg Coggeshall. Children, Peleg, Anna Ray; grandchildren, Lydia Ray, Rhoda Coggeshall.

1813. Betsy Cory, guardian of her children, Betsey and James.

1813. Administration on estate of Ann Coleman, widow of John.

1813. Lydia Hinckley, widow of John, administratrix of estate of Daniel Macy.

1813. Judith Coffin, widow of Benjamin, administratrix his estate.

1813. Susanna Barnard, widow of Obed, administratrix his estate.

1813. Will of Silvanus Starbuck. Wife, Mary; children, David, Hepsabah Barnard, Mary Matilda, Uriah; son Moses had died, leaving Henry, Moses and Mary; daughter Abigail Barnard had died, leaving Obed; daughter Lydia Barnard had died, leaving Elisha, Jr., Paul, Lydia; granddaughter, Phebe Coffin.

1813. Administration estate Eunice Gardner.

Administration estate John Gardner.

Administration estate Zacchariah Coffin.

1813. Guardian for Mary and Moses Dame.

1813. Guardianship of Elizabeth Swain over William, Charles G. and Peleg Swain, children of Grafton, and Elizabeth, daughter of Peelg, Jr.

Estate of Zacchariah Coffin passed to Avis Netsher and Waterman Coffin.

1813. Guardian of David Giles, son of David.

1813. Will Obed Bunker. Wife, Phebe; children, Absalom, Abigail, alias Nabby; Polly, Cromwell, Jesse, Caleb, Asa, Valentine, Tamar.

1813. Will Timothy Swain. Wife, Eunice; children, Hepsibah Chase, Nancy Swain, Gardner Swain.

1813. Solomon Macy, guardian of his children, George, Edward, Lydia.

1814. Will George Folger. Wife, Rebecca; children, Dinah, George, deceased; Barnabas, Clement, Alexander, Rebecca Bunker.

1814. Will John Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth; child Elizabeth deceased, others not named.

1814. Estate Isaiah Coffin included one-fifth ship John Jay, and one-tenth ship Lydia.

1814. Estate George Whippley passed to widow Eunice and children Mary Ann and Sally.

1813. Estate Edward Cory distributed to wife Lydia and children Edward, Samuel, James, Robert, Thomas, Charles, Martin T. Morton and James Athearn.

1814. Will Jonathan Gorham Fitch. Wife, Ennie; children, Elizabeth, Jonathan G., Daniel, Beriah, Lydia Gorham, deceased.

1814. Judith Coffin, widow of Silvanus, administratrix his estate.

Administration estate Simeon Clark.

1814. Administration estate John Closby.

Administration estate Ruth Clark.

Administration estate Andrew Gardner.

1814. Guardian Charles Worth, son of Obed and Janet.
1814. Guardian Charles Cary, son of Edward.
1814. Guardian William, Benjamin and Lydia Closby, children of Abraham Closby.
1814. Guardian Reuben, Eliza and Christopher F. Coffin, children of Isaiah Coffin, deceased, and wife Sarah.
1814. Administration estate Lydia Corey.
1814. Administration estate David Pinkham.
1814. Administration estate Robert Barney.
1814. Administration estate Eunice Easton.
1814. Will Richard Macy. Children, Zephaniah Coffin, Phebe, Zaccheus, deceased; Job, Miriam Prince, wife of George; Priscilla Ray, wife of Paul, deceased. Estate, \$10,000.
1814. Will Catherine Coffin gave all to her friend and companion, Merebah Gardner.
- Will Ebenezer Skinner. Wife, Mary.
1814. Will William Macy. Daughter, Sarah. Names of other children not given. Estate, \$15,000. He was a store-keeper. Widow, Jedidah.
1814. Will Zaccheus Macy. Wife, Judith; children, Sarah Hussey, Mary, Richard, Judith, Zaccheus, Lydia.
1814. Will of Isaac Chase. Wife, Eunice; children not named.
1814. Will of James Cary. Wife, Betsey; brothers and sisters, Edward, Samuel, Richard, Robert, Polly, Lydia, Thomas, Charles.
- Guardian of children of Peleg Easton, Lydia, Peters, Elizabeth, Alice.
1814. Guardian of children of Paul Roy, Mary, Deborah, Edward, Shubael, Albert, Sarah.
1814. Mary Hilborn, widow of Charles J., administratrix of his estate. [He was fatally wounded in the battle on the south side of Nantucket when on board the privateer Prince de Neufchatel.]
1814. Will of Peter Rangué, of Charbury, France, one of the crew of the privateer Prince of Neufchatel, gave his prize

money to friend, John Green, of Nantucket, and the rest of his estate to his son, Louis.

1814. Will Francis Swain. Wife, Lydia; children, Margaret Coffin, Jedidah Lawrence, Robert, Seth, Sally Coleman, wife Charles; granddaughter, Mary Russell, daughter of Barnabas.

1814. Lydia Baxter's estate descended to Jemima Burnell, widow of Jonathan Samuel Burnell.

Susanna Elkins, wife of Ammiel.

Deborah Meoder, wife of Thomas.

Jonathan Burnell had died, leaving sons, Jonathan and Barker.

1814. Estate Lydia Cory went to Lucinda Gardner, Edward, Samuel, James, Robert, Charles Thomas Cory, Martin T. Morton and James Athearn.

1815. Administration estate Stephen Barnard.

Administration estate Reuben Hussey.

Administration estate Elizabeth Peckham.

Administration estate William M. Beard.

Administration estate Joseph Brown.

1815. Will of Francis Gardner. Wife, Lucretia; children, Hephzibah Fosdick, Anna Smith, Francis Gardner, Love Whippley, Isaac, Uriah.

1815. Will Tristram Gardner. Wife, Avis; children, Tristram, William, John, Avis, Sally.

1815. Will of Walter Brock. Wife, Judith; son-in-law, Linzey Riddell.

1815. Abigail Pinkham, administratrix of her husband, Uriah.

1815. Mary Hussey, widow of Peter, administratrix of his estate. \$14,000.

1815. Mary Fisher, widow of Freeman, administratrix of his estate. He left minor children Hannah, Mary Ann, Elizabeth H.

1815. Guardian of Alexander Brayton and Julia E. Brayton, children of Israel, deceased.

1815. Will of William Folger. Children, William had died, leaving daughter Maria, and William A.

1815. Judith Bunker, Elizabeth Barker, Phebe Hussey, Anna Coffin, Mayhew Folger, Sarah Hussey and Lydia Hussey, wives of Tristram and Zaccheus Hussey.

1815. Will Ebenezer Drew. Wife, Hannah.

1815. Susanna Turner, widow of Baker, administratrix his estate.

1815. Rebecca Swain, widow of Wyer, administratrix of his estate.

1815. Will of Merah Myrick, widow. Sister, Matilda Coffin, widow of Matthew. Brother, Zacchariah Coffin, had died, leaving children, Avis and Waterman.

Estate Abigail Macy divided between heirs of Joseph Brown, Phebe Coleman, widow, and wives of Francis Macy and Joseph Cartwright.

1815. Guardian of children of Josiah Barnard, William Henry, Emeline, James.

1815. Guardian of children of William and Susanna Folger, Maria, William, Andrew.

—1815. Will of Christopher Starbuck. Wife, Mary; children, Miriam, Judith Macy, Tristram, Nathaniel.

1815. Will Joseph Macy. Mother, Abiel; brother, George; sister, Lydia.

1815. Guardian of children of Benjamin Swift, Alexander S., Ann, Eliza Ann.

1815. Will of Henry Foy. Wife, Ruth.

1815. Will of Laban Coffin. Wife, Jemima.

1815. In estate of Wyer Swain were three shares of Academy and 2½ pews in the new Meeting House.

Will of Phebe Gardner, maiden. Cousins, Judith Jones, Hepsabah Gardner, Elizabeth Coffin, Christian Gardner, Henry Bunker, son of Barnabas; and Lydia Bunker, wife of Barnabas.

1815. Will of John Folger. Wife, Lydia; son, Obed; grandson, Uriah Coffin, son of Abilen. A daughter married Josiah Calder, and had Josiah, Samuel, Love, Sally.

In estate of Israel Brayton was seven-sixteenths of brig Eliza Ames.



1815. Second will of Phebe Gardner. Legatees, Josiah Hussey, Sally Jones, widow of Barzillai; Elizabeth Folger, wife of Walter; Matthew Jones, Henry Bureker, Charles W. Cartwright, Ruth Paddock, Anna Coleman, Susan Hussey, wife of Daniel; Judith Jones, Elizabeth Dow, wife of Reuben; Sarah Bureker, wife of Samuel; Elizabeth Chase, wife of Obed; Avis Gardner, Sally Gardner and Sally Fosdick.

Estate of Peleg and Eunice Easton went to Peter, George, David, Mary, Eunice, Anna, Lydia, Elizabeth and Aliee.

1816. Will of William Starbuck. Wife, Mary; children, Kimball, Elisha, Clarinda Boardman, Keziah Jenkins; granddaughter, Eliazbeth Mayo.

1816. Nuncupative will of Thankful Gardner.

Estate of William M. Beard included one-eighth of ship Weymouth, \$1600.

1816. Will Anna Ray, widow of David. Same children as mentioned in relation to his estate.

1816. Administration estate of Abraham Closby.

1816. Administration estate of Deborah Hussey.

1816. Administration estate of Prince Gardner, \$16,000.

1816. Administration estate of Benjamin Coffin.

1816. Administration estate of George G. Hussey.

1816. Administration estate of Deborah Folger.

1816. Administration estate of Daniel Whitney.

1816. Administration estate of Deborah Myrick.

1816. Administration estate of Hezekiah Coffin.

1816. Administration estate of Timothy Coffin.

1816. Administration estate of James Dyer.

1816. Administration estate of Reuben Chadwick.

1816. Estate Obed Hussey passed to Abiel Pinkham, Thaddeus Hussey, heirs Simeon Hussey.

1816. Guardian of Silas Grew.

1816. Guardian of children of William Hosier, deceased, and wife, Elizabeth, Mary, Giles, Lucretia, Eliza, Judith.

1816. Deborah Gardner, widow of Isaac, administratrix of his estate. He left a minor child, Phebe.

1816. Guardian of Reuben Hussey, son of Reuben and Phebe.

1816. Will of Simeon Coffin. Children, Simeon, Sally Briggs, Deborah Willis [wife probably of Eliakim] had children, Mary O'Neal, Betsey Pinkham and George Pinkham.

1816. Will Edward Brayton. Left all to friend, Paul Coffin.

1816. Will Jonathan Morris. Wife, Mary; children, William, Jonathan, Sally West.

1816. Administration estate of Lydia Gardner.

Administration estate of John Hodges.

1816. Administration estate of Lydia Gardner.

Administration estate of Benjamin Coffin.

Will John Jenkins. Wife, Sarah; children, Sarah Hussey, wife of Charles F. Silvanus; Elizabeth Leggett, wife of Joseph; Mary Seaman, wife of Willett; Avis, Nancy, Thomas W.

Estate of Ebenezer Raymond passed to widow, Elizabeth, and children, George, Eunice and Elizabeth Way.

Will Ann Coleman. Sister, Miriam Rand, had a daughter, Lydia.

Rose Macy, widow of Jonathan, administratrix of his estate.

Desire Nichols, widow of William, administratrix his estate.

1816. Will of Abigail Hussey. Seth had died, leaving children, Abraham and Sarah.

Elizabeth Coffin had died, leaving children, Katherine Clark, Sally Jones, Silvanus Coffin.

Katherine Coleman had died, leaving Laban, William and Charles, Ruth Swain, Anna Barney, Willione.

Administration estate of Seth Folger.

Administration estate of Jonathan Swain.

Guardian of Joseph Wyer and William Wyer, sons of William, deceased, and Peggy.

Guardian of children of Thomas Allen Haskell, late of Middleboro; Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Allen.

Guardian of Robert Swain, son of Obed.

1817. Elizabeth Folger, widow of Seth, guardian of their children, Frederic W. and Louisa.

Will John Llarena.

Administration estate of Abiel Hussey.

Administration estate of Silvanus Coleman.

Administration estate of Francis Boggs.

Guardian of Abraham Hussey.

Guardian of Robert Cory, spendthrift.

Will of Jethro Mitchell. Housekeeper, Mary Clisby; sons, Obed, Aaron, Jethro; granddaughter, Lydia Gardner, daughter of Paul.

Administration estate of Oliver C. Hussey.

Administration estate of William Riddell to Eliza, his widow.

Will of Obed Marshall. Children, Margaret, had child Mary; Susanna Bunker, Obed, Elihu. Thomas had died, leaving Sally Easton, Susanna, Lydia, Thomas.

1817. Rachel Austin, widow of Joseph, administratrix his estate.

Obed Marshall, administrator estate of Susanna Marshall.

Will Peter Easton, physician. Sister, Content Warren; children, Isaae Senter Easton, Alexander Coffin Easton, George Walter Easton, Josiah Barker Easton, Mary Ann Easton.

Will John Pinkham. Wife, Mary; daughter, Susanna Coffin; granddaughter, Lucy Drew.

Administration on estate of Joseph Folger.

Administration on estate of Moses Bunker.

Guardian of Peter Easton, insane.

Will of James Gwinn. Wife, Polly.

1818. Guardian of George W. Chase, son of Nathan, deceased.

Drusilla and William Stubbs.

Administration estate of Samuel Stubbs.

Lydia Burdick, administratrix estate Henry Burdick.

Will of Francis Macy. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Hannah M. Gardner, wife of Abner; Samuel, Francis, Thomas, John.

Administration estate Stephen Hussey.

Will Sylvanus Crosby. Wife, Huldah; children, Hulda Whippley, wife of Benjamin; Molly Wyer, wife of Owen; Matthew, Betsey Clisby, widow.

Will of George Newhegin. Wife, Charlotte; children, Sally Jones, Hepsibah, Eliza.

Will Josiah Barker, in order to prevent the taking of an inventory gave all to his wife, Elizabeth. He left children Josiah, Eliza, Sarah, Mary Ann, Martha R.

Will Charles Folger. Wife, Lydia; children, Charles, Frederick, Hiram, John William, Lydia Bunker, widow of Thaddeus; Peleg, Charlotte Coffin, wife of Edward; Alfred, Lucretia, Mark, Edward.

Will of Desire Nichols. Children, Mary Fisher, Sally G. Morris, Betsey Cowel, Charles, William. Joseph, deceased, had sons, Henry, Jared.

Will Stephen Coleman. Wife, Susanna.

Will Obed Chase. Wife, Elizabeth.

Will of Timothy Swain. Wife, Dinah; children, Mary Moores, Elizabeth Swift, Eliakim, Hepsabeth Coffin; grandchildren, Phebe Swain, Hepsabeth Chase, Mary Coider, Gardner Swain.

Will Nathaniel Barnard. Children, Hezekiah; daughters-in-law, Mary and Elizabeth Barnard; grandchildren, Ann Macy, Samuel B., Susan, Edward H. and Martha Swain.

1819. Will Richard Mitchell. Children, Paul, Christopher, Benjamin, David, Elizabeth Emmet and Laban, deceased.

Will of Elizabeth Hosier. Children, Giles, Eliza, Lucretia, Judith.

Will George Russell. Children, Eunice Mitchell, George; granddaughter, Elizabeth West.

Will William Ramsdel. Wife, Ruth; daughter, Elizabeth Starbuck, wife of Levi; grandchildren, Charles Ramsdell Starbuck, Susan S. Folger, Obed Starbuck, Henry William Ramsdell, and Phebe Ramsdell.

Will Anna Ray. Sisters, Mary and Sarah.

Judith Clark, widow of Uriah, administratrix of his estate.

Will of Nathaniel Chadwick. Wife, Margaret; children, Mary Worth, Eunice Harps, Lydia Paddock, Ann Chadwick, Hepsobah Hilborn, Margaret Hussey, Rebecca Beebe, wife of John.

Will of John Sherman. Wife, Margaret; and daughter Deborah.

Will Simeon Russell. Wife, Priscilla; sister, Jedidah; brother, John; nephew, George.

Will of Robert Swain. Wife, Lucy; father, Francis; sister, Jedidah Lawrence.

1820. Will Ebenezer Fitch. Wife, Abigail; children, Coffin, Joseph, deceased; Betsey Pease, John, Peggy, Fosdick, Nancy.

1819. Will Thaddeus Coffin. Wife, Jennima.

Will Judith Macy. Children, Sylvanus, Obed, Caleb, Ruth Chase, guardian; daughter, Judith Coffin; widow of Sylvanus.

Will of Robert Gardner. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Miriam Fitch, wife of Obed oRbert, Hepsobeth Roy, wife of Reuben.

Administration estate of Elizabeth Hillman.

1820. Will of Joseph Kelley. Wife, Sarah; mother, Abigail; sisters, Susan Covel, and Nabby Kelley.

Will James Whippley. Wife, Martha; Ann Coffin, widow of Thaddeus, administratrix of his estate.

1821. Will Bartlett Jenkins. Wife, Mary; brother-in-law, William Jenkins.

1821. Will of Sally Barrett, daughter, Sally Macy, wife of Peleg, guardian; daughter, Rebecca Gardner, widow of Hezekiah; daughters, Margaret, Judith Tuck, Eunice Hewes, deceased; Sally Jones, widow of Barzillai; Mary Meiggs, guardian of children Caleb and Amelia.

Will Uriah Bunker. Wife, Margaret; children, Ann Swain, wife of Abishai; Andrew, Priscilla Drew, deceased; Thomas and Obed.

1819. Administration estate of Nathan Ulford. Wife, Leah, dr. Richard Hamilton of Barnstable.

1820. Will Benjamin Swain. Wife, Phebe; children not named; grandson, George Swain.

1820. Inventory of estate of Obed Mitchell, \$112,000.

1821. Will of Jedediah Fitch. Wife, Lydia.

Will of Isaiah Folger. Wife, Rachel.

1820. Will of Miriam Folger. Brother, Silas Folger; sisters, Mary, Keziah and Dinah, deceased; cousins, Jonathan Swain and Elizabeth Black.

1820. Will of Simeon Coleman. Children, Simeon. Charles H., John, Eunice.

Will of Stephen Arthur. Neither wife nor children named.

Will Elisha Barnard. Children, Paul, Elisha, Lydia.

1821. Will Mary Waterman. Daughters-in-law, Sarah Waterman and Sarah Jenkins; other legatees, Sylvanus and Nancy Jenkins and Hepsibah King.

1821. Will Hezekiah Bunker. Wife, Lydia; son, William; grandchildren, William B., Thomas F., and Charles Mitchell and Lydia B. Gardner.

1820. Will of James Coffin. Wife, Janet; children, Priscilla, Albert, Elizabeth Long, Abel Coffin, Susanna Coffin.

1822. Shubael Russell and wife Betsey agreed to live apart.

1823. Will of Edmund Fanning. Wife, Nabby; children, Berkley and Edmund Frederick Augustus, who has already been provided for by the late General Edmund Fanning.

1822. Will of William Giles Hosier. Sisters, Eliza, Judith and Lucretia Coffin.

1822. Will of Judith Gardner. Sisters, Margaret Jenkins, Lydia Swain; Jedidah Lawrence had died leaving James. Mary and Francis; son-in-law, Thomas Pitman; brothers, James Barker, Francis Barker who had died leaving Sarah; sister-in-law Deborah Barker, who had a son, Jared.

1822. Will of Francis Joy. Wife, Elizabeth; children, Phebe Easton, wife of Thaddeus, deceased; Hepsobeth Gardner, wife of Gideon; Mary Folger, wife of Mayhew; Sarah Folger, wife of Timothy; Judith Gardner, deceased; grandchildren, Eliza Ann Gardner, Hepsobeth Mitchell, wife of Samuel, and Francis Joy.

1822. Will of Obadiah Folger. Wife, Ruth; son-in-law, Peleg Easton; granddaughter, Eliza Ann Easton.

Will of Shubael Coffin. Wife, Priscilla; children, Peggy Pinkham Coffin, Mary Bunker Coffin and Lydia Gardner Coffin.

1820. Will Keziah Fanning. Children, William, Hetty Wells Wood, Caroline Matilda Wood; Thomas, Edmund, Robert Barclay; John Coffin had died leaving Adeline; Phineas Wing Fanning.

1821. Will of Margaret Cory. Widow of Richard; sisters, Betsey Chase. Polly had died leaving Mary Harris, Ann Austin, Charlotte Chase and Betsey Chase.

Will of Elizabeth Bunker. Daughter, Hepsabeth Crocker; grandchildren, Eliza and Nathaniel Bunker.

1821. Will of Abel Coffin. Wife, Anna.

1822. Will Barnabas Coleman. Wife, Sally; children, Lucretia, Merab Brayton, Alexander, Frederic Brown, John, Roland, Peggy, Sandford.

1820. Will Samuel Crosby. Wife, Sarah; children, not named.

1822. Will of Shubael Barnard. Wife, Ruth; children, Susanna Bewker, Mary Swain, wife of Valentine; James, Shubael Thomas had died leaving Lotty, George, Susanna, Matthew, Thomas; Lydia Hussey, wife of Valentine, who had a son Henry Barnard; grandchildren, Ruben Starbuck, George Russell; Susanna Williams had died, leaving Elizabeth West.

1821. Will of Nancy Cottle, daughter of David and Rebecca; brother, Obed.

Will Susanna Barnard, daughter of Bochiler Hussey; children, Delia M., Charles H., George F., Alexander C.

1823. Will of Ruth Gardner, daughter of John; children, Silvanus, Ebenezer; John had died leaving Love; Judith, Elizabeth Collins, Ruth.

1821. Will Jonathan Chase. Wife, Mary; children, Benjamin, Reuben, Phebe Swain.

1823. Administration estates of Samuel Swain, Rufus Coffin, Alexander G. Myrick, Valentine Swain, Elijah Nicholson and James Norton.

1820. Will of Stephen Arthur. Wife, Sarah; children, Andrew E., Eliza, Mary; grandchildren, William Hoeg and William Arthur.

1823. Will of Peter F. Coffin. Wife, Peggy; children, Charlotte, Henry, Jannett, Lydia.

Will of Benjamin Baker. Wife, Elizabeth.

Will of Rebecca Folger. Son, William; sisters and brothers, Elizabeth Worth, wife of Richard; Lydia Mary, wife of Samuel; Phebe Coleman, wife of Samuel; Walter Chase, whose wife was Anna; Aaron Chase, whose wife was Mary; and Gideon Chase, whose wife was Eunice.

1823. Will of Lot Cottle. Wife, Ruth; children, David, Barzillai Laban, Henry, Shubael, Mary Joy, and three who have died, Elizabeth Clark, Owen, John.

1823. Will Andrew Worth. Sisters, Lydia and Sally.

Will of Paul Coggeshall. Wife, Margaret; children, Robert, Joseph C., granddaughter, Nancy Coggeshall.

1824. Will of Edmund Gale. Wife, Christina; children, Samuel Stubbs; Sarah, James.

1823. Will of Lydia Jenkins, widow, children, Merab Pinkham, Valentine, who died had children, Susan, Eunice and Judith.

1818. Administration granted on the estate of the following named deceased persons: Uriah Clark, to his widow, Judith; Christopher Coffin; Daniel B. Hussey, to his widow, Susan; William House, to his widow, Janet; Isaiah Folger, to widow, Rachel; David Joy, to Moses Joy; John Gardner; Polly Forting; Hezekiah Coffin, to widow, Nancy; Rufus Coffin, to Timothy G. Coffin; Alexander Macy; Roland Waldrow, to widow, Betsey; William Nichols, gentleman, to Edward Covel; Richard Hosier, to Lydia Hosier.

1819. Silvanus Russell, to widow, Abigail; Samuel Bailey; Hezekiah Bunker, 2d; Silvanus Macy; Windsor Turner; Elizabeth Hillman; Stephen Skinner, to Jonathan Perry and Benjamin Lehommedieu; John Gardner, Jr., to Ebenezer Fitch; Joseph N. Davies; Christopher Bunker; Jesse Read; Thomas Hussey; Nathan Ufford; John Pinkham; Caleb Macy; Gardner Ellis; Isaiah Crocker; Silvanus Cushing.



1820. Francis Coffin; Ralph Kilburn; Elizabeth Coleman, widow of Davis; Anthony Loper; Uriah Coffin; William Chase, to Joseph Chase; David Myrick, to widow, Peggy; Thaddeus Coffin, to widow, Ann.

1821. James Swain; Albert Folger, to widow, Susannah; Peter Easton; Henry James; Hezekiah Gardner; James Whiteus, to Ambrose Whiteus; Obed Mitchell, to Samuel Mitchell; estate, \$112,000; Charles H. Coleman, to widow, Mary; Joseph Mingo; Libni Gardner, to widow, Martha; Robert Bunker; Nathaniel Burrell; Thomas Mitchell; Charles Davis; Francis Hussey; James Swain, 2d; Charles West, to Paul West.

1822. Avis Swain; James Norton; Benjamin Swain; Benjamin Chase; Jethro Dunham; Samuel Crosby, to Marshall Crosby; Silvanus Burrell; William Ellis; George Paddock; Jacob Williams; Henry Albert; Jonathan Mitchell; Sarah Gardner; Sally Jones; William Allen; Alexander Coffin; Ichabod Aldridge, to David Elkins; Silas West, to Paul West; Reuben Dow, to widow, Elizabeth; Stephen Fish, to widow, Lydia; George Barrett, to widow, Sophia; William P. Coffin; Elijah Luce; Roland Young; Thaddeus Joy, to widow, Judith; Henry Smith; Joseph Painter; Charles G. Cathcart, to Jonathan Cathcart; Shubael Brown, to widow, Avis; Davis Cleavland; Mary Aldridge; Jeremiah Austin, to Isaac Austin.

1823. John C. Bunker; Jonathan Upham; Stephen Hussey; John Emils; Horatio Knapp; Shubael Gardner; Thomas Starbusk, 2d; Francis Joy; Cromwell Coffin; Peter Easton, physician, to Alexander E. Easton; Samuel G. Trafton, to widow, Hannah G.

1824. John Pompey; Owen Coffin, to widow, Judith; Caleb Allen; Elizabeth Coffin; Ensign Rogers, to Henry Rogers; William Drew; Robert Dixon, to Phebe Dixon; John Pinkham; John Coffin; Samuel Gelston; Zephaniah Wood, to widow, Martha; Christopher Bunker; James Dyer; Reuben Chase, to widow, Judith; Charles Calder; Frederick W. Griffith; Gilbert Joy.

1825. John Lumbert; Silas Butler; Edward LaFord; Stephen Briggs, to Jonathan C. Briggs; Valentine Swain; Benjamin Fosdick, Sr.; Susan Starbuck, widow; Obed Wyer, to widow, Anna.

1819. John Hedge, to widow, Clarissa.

1825. William Jenkins Bunker; Anna Wyer; Rebecca Bruff; George Bruff.

1826. Mary Ray; Eliphalet Paddock; Theodore Saywood; James Norton, widow Mary; Timothy Horsfield; Mary Starbuck, to Kimball Starbuck; John Jenkins, to Perez Jenkins; Alexander Coleman; Elizabeth Emmett; Jonathan Upham, to David Upham; John House; John R. Caswell.

1827. Joseph Swain; Charles Barnard Worth, to Susan Worth.

1823. Phebe Worth; Laban Swain.

1823. Allowance to Charlotte Myrick, widow of Reuben. Guardians were appointed in the following cases:

1818. Benjamin Franklin Haskell and Thomas Allen Haskell.

Children of Christopher Coffin, Sarah P., Edward W., Nancy, Betsey, John B., Lydia, Mercy G.

Grandchildren of Nathaniel Barnard, Samuel B., Susanna, Edward H. and Martha Swain.

Child of William Nichols, Desire Nichols.

Absolom Forting, child of Absolom.

1819. Susanna, Samuel and Mary Skinner, children of Stephen.

Elizabeth Emmett, widow, daughter of Richard Mithcell.

Caleb Macy, son of Caleb and Judith.

Mary S. and Lydia Coffin, children of Thaddeus, 2d.

1820. Elizabeth C., William M., Ann C., Charles E., Susan B. and Frederic A. Hussey, children of Peter.

Nancy Moores, daughter of William.

Emeline Coffin, daughter of Hon. Thaddeus.

Mary C. Gelston, granddaughter of Hon. Thaddeus.

Louisa Macy, daughter of Clarissa.

Sally F. Barrett, daughter of Deacon Nathaniel Barrett.

1821. Caroline Louisa Livermore and Sarah Maria Bliss, children of Joseph Bliss.

Phebe, Edward, Franklin F. Macy and Charles Joy, children of Thaddeus.

Thomas S., James and Lydia Mitchell, children of Thomas. James Cook Hussey.

Charles B. and Edward Pitts, children of William.

Francis B., Joseph, Frederick W., Charles A. and Hannah M. Gardner, heildren of Hezekiah B.

Mary Ann and William Whittelus, children of William and grandchildren of James.

Alexander Catheart.

1822. John P. Drew.

Obed Mitchell, son of Obed.

Mary and Moses Dame, children of Moses.

Mary, Anna and Lydia Macy, children of Jethro.

Charles A. Bradford, grandchild of Ebenezer Hinckley, late of Barnstable.

1823. William Folger, son of Alexander.

1824. John Allen.

Susan, William and Charlotte Harps, Charles and Mary Kilburn, grandchildren of Nathaniel Chadwick.

William Horsfield.

John Clark, son of Israel.

James Archer, son of William.

Timothy Jones.

1825. Reuben Maxey.

1826. George Swain, son of George.

1827. Susan Rebecca Worth, daughter of Charles B. Worth.

1826. James Freeman and Isaac Young Swain.

Abstracts of wills:

1823. Abigail Paddock, who had a sister, Anna Folger, and niece, Eliza Myrick, child of Peter Coffin.

Paul Hussey. Wife, Judith; children, Alexander G., Nancy, William S. and Charles, the last of whom had died, leaving children, William, Alexander, Lydia, Eliza, Eunice and Mary Ann.

1825. Francis Brown. Children, Sally Halsey, Mary Coffin, Ruth Baker; grandchildren, Asa Coffin and George Franklin Halsey.

Tristram Swain. Wife, Rachel.

Stephen Chase. Wife, Peggy or Margaret, and children not named.

Reuben Starbuck. Wife, Deborah; father-in-law, William Hussey; children, Lydia Eaton, wife of Frederick; Sally, Edward H., Elizabeth and George C. Starbuck.

Phebe Macy. Brother, Zephaniah Coffin Macy; sister, Priscilla Ray, who had daughter, Deborah.

1823. Paul Coggeshall. Wife, Margaret; children, Robert and Joseph C.

1823. Matthew Ross, colored.

1813. Abigail Worth. Brother, Matthew Worth; sister, Hepsibah Sherman; niece, Sophia Folger Sherman; nephew, Alexander Worth Sherman.

1813. Ebenezer Swain. Wife, Lydia; children, Ebenezer and Phebe; grandchildren, Stephen and Mary West.

1791. William Butler. Wife, Mary.

1825. John Thomas. Wife, Hannah; daughter, Eliza.

Daniel Coleman. Wife, Elizabeth; children, George, Susannah, wife of Joseph Barney; Mary Barney, who had children, Charles and Mary.

Margaret Coggeshall. Son, Robert; daughter, Polly Swain, wife of Samuel; had died leaving Eliza Baxter, Hannah, Margaret, Mary, Sarah, Anne, Susanna, Caroline, Mahala.

Elizabeth Folger. Sister-in-law, Ruth Folger; nephew, Benjamin Franklin Folger; and nieces, Phebe Easton, Phebe Doane, Elizabeth Joy, Polly Barney, Mary Folger, wife of Mayhew; Judith Joy and Phebe Fosdick.

1826. Ebenezer Rand. Wife, Hannah; children, Hannah Folger, Fanny Beauchamp, Susan Russell, Ebenezer, Nathaniel, Polly Fisher, Charles and Nancy Rand.

Robert Inott. Wife, Judith; daughter, Eliza Macy.

John Swain. Children, Reuben, Elizabeth Russell, Debo-

rah Coffin, wife of William B.; Ann Chase. Three had died, leaving heirs, Thomas, Moses and John Howland Swain, wife, Mary.

Elizabeth Coffin. Father, Peleg Gardner; children, Gorham, Elizabeth Chase; grandchildren, Roland and Betsey Coffin.

David Ewer. Wife, Mary; children, Phebe Case, Eliza Ann, Prince W. and Abraham P.

Abishai Swain, 2d. Wife, Anna; son, Ammiel.

Walter Folger. Children, Walter, Gideon, Aaron, Lydia Macy, Elizabeth Worth, Phebe Coleman; grandson, William.

1827. Timothy Gardner. Children, Timothy; Andrew had died, leaving heirs; Abijah; grandchildren, William and Eliza Gardner.

1823. Barzillai Luce. Wife, Charlotte.

1821. Estate of Christopher Bunker, distributed to Christopher, Merah Gardner, Persis Worth, wife of Henry; Eunice Bunker, widow of Jesse, and as guardian of her children, Eliza Gruney and Alexander Bunker.

1822. Division of estate of William Perkins between widow, Betsey, and heirs, Polly Chadwick, wife of Anthony; Love Dawson, wife of William; Amy Raymond, wife of Charles; William Perkins.

Distribution of estate of Francis Macy, to Sarah H., Francis G., Hannah M. Gardner, wife of Oliver C; Thomas M. and John B. Macy.

1825. Division of estate of Francis Joy, \$32,000, to widow, Elizabeth; children, Hepzibah Gardner, wife of Gideon; Phebe Eastern, wife of William; Hepzibah Mitchell, wife of Samuel; Judith Gardner, wife of Albert; Mary Folger, wife of Mayhew; Thaddens Joy, Sarah Folger, Francis. The last three and Judith had died leaving heirs.

In division of estate of Benjamin Fosdick, the children of Peter F. Fosdie were heirs, namely: Charlotte G. Coffin, Henry F. Coffin, Janet G. and Lydia F. Coffin.

1826. Estate of Abishai Hayden passed to widow, Merab; heirs, Laban and Mark Russell; Samuel and Rebecca Moores; William and Lucretia Cobb.

Heirs of Robert Folger were Priscilla Briggs, Hepzibah Coffin; Judith Inott, Mary Coffin, wife of Absolom.

1822. Polly Russell was widow of James.

1825. Anna Folger was widow of Robert.

1826. Benjamin Mitchell had moved from the state, and upon the petition of Peter F. Ewer he was removed from office of executor of will of Peter Folger.

1827. Will Jethro Pinkham. Wife, Susan; children, Andrew, Seth, Mary Perry, Ruth, Love, Folger, Deborah Eldredge.

Will Libni Gardner. Wife, Elizabeth; brother, Zenos, a relative James Delano.

Administration estate Charles Gardner.

Frederic Arthur, guardian of Andrew E., Eliza, Merey, children of Stephen Arthur.

Guardian of Caroline Jane, Charles C. and Charles Hussy, children of Charles Gardner, 2d.

Will of Rebecca Gardner, widow of George. Children, Grafton, George, Rebecca Brock, Abigail Drew; Barzillai had died, leaving Joseph L., Malen M. and Lurany M.

Will Rebecca B. Gardner, widow of Hezekiah B. Grandfather, Samuel Barrett; children, Hannah, Maria, Francis B., Joseph B., Frederic W., Charles A.

Administration estate of Thomas Nickerson.

Administration estate of Franklin Chase.

Administration estate of John Narbath.

Administration estate of Joseph W. Plaskett, to widow Persis.

Guardian children of Joseph Bliss. Caroline Louisa Livermore Bliss and Sarah Maria Bliss.

Guardian of Tristram Ellis.

Guardian of Lucretia, Elizabeth and Mary J. Paddock, children of George and Lydia Paddock.

Will of Sarah Folger. Children, Sarah, Silvanus, Frederic W., Mary Ann, Edward J., Charles A., Lydia, Robert Mayhew, Eliza, Phebe; brothers-in-law, Gideon Gardner and William Easton.

Guardian of Elnathan Gibbs, son of Elnathan and Judith.

Will of Rachel Paddock. Sisters, Dinah Bunker and Merah Ray; daughter-in-law, Lydia Paddock; children, Mary Meader, Eunice Starbuck, Mary and Henry.

Administration estate John P. Morris.

Administration estate Ruth Gardner.

Will Tristram Pinkham. Children, Lydia, Susan Turner, Hezekiah, Judith Swain, Betsey Morris, John.

Will Southward Jenkins. Wife, Anna B.; children, Sally, Maria; brothers, Joseph, Lemuel; sisters, Abigail Stewart, Mercey Hinkley.

Will Nathaniel Barrett. Wife, Margaret; daughter, Anna Coffin.

Will Naomi Chase. Son-in-law, Alexander Swain; grandchildren, Obed Chase and Elizabeth Gardner; children, Lydia Hussey, Naomi, Miriam Coffin, Judith Swain, Francis, Paul, Eunice Swain, Phebe Mitchell had died leaving heirs.

Administration estate Paul Bunker.

Administration estate Jonathan Pitts.

Administration estate Samuel S. Riddell to widow Judith.

Administration estate John Jenkins.

1828. Administration estate Simeon Russell to George Russell, David Starbuck, 2nd.

Will Priscilla Russell. No relatives mentioned.

Will Enoch Gardner. Wife, Jemima.

Will Jeremiah Lawrence. Wife, Eunice; children, Charles, William, Eliza.

Will Obed Cash. Wife, Judith.

Will Susan Alley. Children, Susan, Reuben and Edward.

Guardians appointed for William Coffin, son of Gorham; Jonathan W. Colesworthy; Almer and Lydia Turner, children of Baker Turner; James F., Frederic C. and Priscilla M. Chase, children of Franklin; Edward Alley, son of Susan; Reuben Maxey, son of Reuben; Joseph, Mary, Benjamin, David, Elizabeth and James Mitchell, children of George; James Archer, son of William.

Administration estate Joseph Macy to widow, Susan H.

Will Joseph Florus. Brother, Silvester.

Will of Princee Baker. Wife, Mary; children, Eliza, Deborah, David, Judith, Henry, Charles; brother, James.

Will Elijah Pease, apothecary. Wife, Mary; children, Mary, Anna Smith, Deborah Gorham, Abraham, Matthew and Princee; the last two had died.

Administration on estate of Zenas Coffin to his sons, Henry and Charles G. Coffin, and sons-in-law Thomas Macy, Matthew Crosby and Henry Swift. The total estate was \$434,000, the largest left by any person residing on the island. In the distribution each branch received a whole ship. The widow Abial received ship Zenos Coffin; Charles G. received ship Constitution; Henry received ship Lydia; Eunice Macy, wife of Thomas, received ship Phenix; Matthew Crosby, guardian, received ship Washington; Henry Swift, guardian, received ship Independence. Allowances to Persis Plaskett, widow of Joseph W.; Abigail Swain, widow of Laban; Nancy Chase, widow of Franklin.

Administration estate of David Elkins to widow, Emeline.

Administration estate of Charles Alley.

Administration estate of John R. Mitchell.

Administration estate of Arden White to Joseph White, of Worcester.

Guardian of Sarah J. Allen, child of Caleb.

Guardian of William Whippey, child of Zebulon.

Guardian of Mary C. and Sarah B. Swift, children of Henry.

Guardian of William H., Mary, Ann and Lydia C. Crosby, children of Matthew.

Will of David Hussey. Wife, Lydia; children, Phebe Dickson, Susan Coleman, Lydia H. Eldred; Francis had died, leaving James C. and Mary W.; David had died, leaving Frederic W., Charles H., Susan and David G.

Will Margaret Chadwick. Son Reuben had died, leaving daughter, Ann; grandchildren, Emeline Kilburn, Susan and Charlotte Harps, Mary Hussey. Others mentioned: Rebecca Chase, wife of George B.; Mary Worth, daughter of David; Susan, Emeline, Sarah and Lydia Paddock.



Will Anna Hussey, daughter of William Hussey. Brothers and sisters, William, Paul, Katherine Coleman, Ruth Swain, Elizabeth Coffin. Seth had died, leaving Abraham and Sally.

Guardian of James C. and Mary Hussey, children of Francis and Peggy.

Guardian of Rebecca Worth, daughter of Charles Barnard Worth.

Guardian of Daniel Webb Jenkins, son of John.

1829. Guardian of Charles G., Peter and Roland B. Chase, children of Peter G.

Guardian of James H. and Mary B. Calder, children of Samuel.

Guardian of Albert C. Bunker, son of Paul.

Will of Anna Fitch, widow of Peter. Sons, Obed and George.

Administration estate Samuel Calder, to widow, Desire.

Administration estate Philip D. DeCosta.

Administration estate Jonathan Barney.

Administration estate Alexander Perry, to widow, Valina.

Administration estate William Rice, to widow, Valnea.

Administration estate Charles Drew.

Administration estate Thomas Clock.

Administration estate Peter Jenkins.

Guardian of Mary C. Worth, daughter of David, and granddaughter, Nathaniel Chadwick.

Guardian of George F. Barney, son of Jonathan, Jr.

Guardian of Emeline, Sarah and Lydia Paddock, children of Seth, and grandchildren of Nathaniel Chadwick.

Guardian of Susan and Charlotte Harps, children of John.

Guardian of Alexander, Susan F. and Margaret G. Perry, children of Alexander.

Guardian of Robert F. Gurney, son of Ephraim.

Guardian of David Baker, son of Prince.

Guardian of William Keen Gookins, son of Alexander and Phebe S.

Will of John W. Mallard. Brother, William.

Will of Joseph Fernandez.

Will of Zebulon Coleman. Wife, Eliza.

Will Joseph Earl. Wife, Susannah; children, Nathaniel, Joseph, Hannah Read, Mary Carr, Sally Brock, Lydia Pease.

Will Roland Gelston. Wife, Susan; daughter, Mary G. Coffin; grandchildren, Sarah, Ann C. and Mary C. Gelston.

Will of Barzillai Hussey, son of Benjamin and Phebe. Wife, Eunice.

Will Susanna Pinkham. Children, Andrew, Mary, Percy, Ruth, Deborah Eldredge; grandchild, Susan P. Eldredge.

Administration estate Joseph Winslow to Betsey and Samuel H. Winslow.

Administration estate Eunice Chase, widow Charles.

Administration estate Zebulon Whippey.

Guardian of Oliver Apply, son of John.

Guardian of Frederic and Rebecca Pinkham, children of John.

Guardian of Mary C. Gelston, daughter of Samuel.

Guardian of Susan C. Harps.

1830. Administration estate Clark Jackson.

Administration estate William Dunham.

Administration estate Zebulon Coleman.

Administration estate Nicholas Easton.

Administration estate Thaddeus Hussey.

Administration Nahum Gurney to widow, Eliza Ann.

Administration estate Andrew F. Swain to widow, Anna B.

Administration estate Henry Pinkham to widow, Avis.

Guardian of Lydia S., Elizabeth, Sarah and Charles H. Alley, children of Charles.

Guardian of Mary F. Hussey, daughter of Thaddeus.

Guardian of Charlotte Harps.

Will Seth Coffin. Children, Deborah, Hannah Swain, Lydia Bartlett, Eliakim, Seth, Benjamin F.

Will Henry Coleman.

Will John Thurston. Wife, Ruth; cousin, Job Thomas.

Allowance to Betsey Winslow, widow of Joseph.

Will Nathaniel Ray. Wife, Merib; children, Thomas B., Mary B., William B.

Will Archelaus Hammond. Wife, Priscilla; sisters, Ruth S. Hammond, Lydia Twing.

Will Prince Coleman, daughter of Priscilla.

Guardian of Eliza G. Clapp, daughter of Henry Reuben Clock, son of William, Jr.

Administration estate Zaccheus Crocker, to widow. Lucy.

Administration estate William Clark, Jr.

Albert Mitchell to Thomas A. Green.

Estate Zebulon Coleman distributed to Deborah Creasy, Emeline Creasy, wife of Reuben; Charlotte Keen, wife of William; Nancy Creasy, wife of George; Susan Austin, wife of George; Robert Coleman.

Heirs of Nathaniel Chadwick, Rebecca Chase, and children of Seth Paddock, Peggy Hussey, Hepsa Kilburn, Eunice Harps and Nancy Worth.

1831. Will Thomas Starbuck. Children, Simeon, Levi, Joseph, Benjamin, Rachel Swain, Dinah Ceeby, Elizabeth Hussey; daughters-in-law, Ann, wife of Reuben, deceased; Mary, wife of Kimball; grandchildren, William, Elizabeth and Mary Ceeby, Henry, John, Lydia, Eunice, Susanna and Rachel Starbusk, Mary Gardner, wife of George.

Guardian of Lucy J. and George W. Macy, children of John W.

Guardian of Andrew and Mary Ann Montgomery, children of James.

Guardian of George and Charlotte Gardner, children of John.

Guardian of Micajah Swain, son of Lewis.

Will of Lettice Summons, colored.

Will of John W. Macy, all estate to Deborah C. and William C. Swain.

Will Ann Pinkham, widow. Sons, Alexander, William Henry Bunker; grandson, David Bunker.

Will of Ruth Pinkham. Brothers and sisters, Nancy Perry, Seth, David, Deborah Eldredge. Mentions Amos Eldredge.

Administration estate Isaac W. Whitman.

Administration estate Alexander P. Morris.

Administration estate Matthew Pinkham.

Administration estate Deborah Folger.

Administration estate Obed Clark.

Administration estate Gardner Coleman to widow Sally C.

Administration estate John Gurrell.

Administration estate Elias Leonard.

Administration estate Jesse Whiat.

Administration estate Daniel Brown.

Administration estate William Brown.

Will of Samuel Robbins, wife Lucy.

Will of John Gordon, son George.

Will of Jonathan Coffin. Wife, Abigail; children, Anna Swain, Mary, David and Sally.

Will Gersham Catheart. Children. Jonathan, Robert, Zimri, Ariel, Hepsobeth Coffin, wife of William, Susan Sanford; Anna Barnard wife of Obed; William had died leaving heirs.

Guardian John F. Gurrell, son of John.

1832. Guardian Job Macy.

Guardian Isaac and Philip Macy, sons of Thomas.

Will of Charles Robbins. Wife, Abba G.

1832. Administration estate William Morse to widow Rosanna.

Will Jedidah Macy. Son-in-law, James Macy; nephew, Jared Gardner; brother, Jacob Barker; sisters, Mary B. Allen and Deborah Barker.

Will of Mary Perry. Brothers and sisters, Seth Perry, Love Folger, Deborah Eldredge.

Will Jeffrey Summers.

Will of Perez Jenkins. Wife, Sally; children, Perez, Edward, Simeon, Lydia.

Will Gideon Gardner. Wife, Hephzebah; children, William Henry, Phebe Fish, George Logan. Hezekiah B. Gardner and Sarah G. Macy had both died leaving heirs. Estate \$35,000.

Will of John Enos, son of John.

Will Gideon Worth. Widow not named. Children, Solon, Amelia, aDavid, Joseph F., Charles A., Velina.

- Guardian Walter Mitchell, son of John R.  
 Guardian Sarah, Catherine, Samuel, Elizabeth Austin,  
 children of Joseph.
1832. Administration estate of Ira M. W. West.  
 Administration estate of Benjamin F. Coffin.  
 Administration estate of John G. Coffin.  
 Administration estate of Thomas Meader.  
 Administration estate of James Thompson.  
 Administration estate of Thomas Clasby.  
 Administration estate of Tristram Gardner.  
 Administration estate of James Barker.  
 Administration estate of Manuel Enos.  
 Administration estate of Frederick W. Ramsdell.  
 Administration estate of John Pravader.  
 Administration estate of William Langton to widow, Mary.  
 Administration estate of Robert Hussey.  
 Administration estate of Silvanus Gardner.  
 Administration estate of Abishai Paddock.  
 Administration estate of Elihu Marshall.  
 Administration estate of Stephen Innis to widow, Elizabeth.
- Administration estate of John R. Mitchell, \$50,000.  
 Administration estate of Thomas S. Worth.  
 Guardian Hannah Maria Gardner, daughter Hezekiah B.  
 Guardian Charles E., Delia, Benjamin, Ann, children of  
 Charles Starbuck.  
 Guardian James Nichols, son of Charles.  
 Guardian Barzillai, Reuben C. and Alma C. Hussey, children  
 of Benjamin.
- Will of Robert Coleman. Wife, Deborah.  
 Will of Job Coffin. Wife, Sarah; children, Lydia Riddell,  
 wife of Franklin; Charles, Alexander, George D.  
 Will of John B. Orpin. Wife, Susanna; grandsons, John  
 B., Edward G., Elizabeth, Lydia.
1833. Will Thomas Cory. Wife, Eliza; father, Joshua  
 Coffin.  
 Will of Peleg Mitchell. Wife, Lydia; sons, Peleg, William;  
 other children not named.

Will Mary Worth, wife of Paul. Brother, William Barney; niece, Mary Swain.

Will Silvanus Macy. Wife, Anna; brother, Obed; children, Eunice Folger, wife of Gideon; John, Rachel Hussey, wife of Roland; Barzillai, Lydia, wife of Frederick C. Maey; Paul, who had children Franklin, Mary Ann, Charlotte. Roland, Martha, Jared, Caroline.

Will Tristram Folger. Wife, Mary; children, Deborah Coggeshall, Phebe Done, Lucretia Macy, Lydia Jenkins.

Guardian of Jane F. and Ann M. Russell, children of Charles.

Administration estate of Charles A. Worth.

Administration estate of Samuel Sanford.

Administration estate of Christopher Burdick.

Administration estate of David Chadwick.

Administration estate of George Adlington.

Administration estate of Charles F. Barton.

Administration estate of Samuel Brown.

Administration estate of Benjamin Glover to widow, Peggy.

Administration estate of William C. Briggs to widow, Mary C.

Administration estate of Nicholas Coffin Codd to Margaret Codd.

Administration estate of Levi Calendar.

1834. Administration estate of Joseph M. Hussey.

Administration estate of Aaron Snow to widow, Nancy.

Administration estate of Isaac Young Swain.

Administration estate of Alexander Whippey.

Administration estate of William S. Hackett.

Administration estate of George Burton.

Administration estate of Silvanus P. Cotton to widow, Lydia.

1833. Guardian of Judith, Henry and Charles Barker, children of Prince and Mary.

Guardian of Sarah F. Hussey, daughter of Alexander.

Will of Joseph Veader. All to Manuel Enos.

1834. Will Joseph Davis. Wife, Thankful; two children not named.

1833. Will Joseph Chase. Wife, Rebecca; children, George H., Joseph, Charles F., William F., Edward, Peggy Coffin, Charlotte.

1834. Will Solomon Coffin. Children, Abigail Allen, wife of Joseph; Eunice Gardner, wife of Jared; Prince, William Henry. Solomon died, leaving Eliza. George died, leaving John Comstock Coffin.

Administration estate of Henry Paddock.

Administration estate of Alexander S. Hussey to Polly C.

Administration estate of Eben Weld Tallant.

Administration estate of Abner Lummus.

Administration estate of William Quirek.

Administration estate of Zebediah Fisher to widow, Hannah.

Administration estate of John Smith, (colored).

Administration estate of Jonathan Jenkins.

Administration estate Charles J. Hussey.

Administration estate of Tristram Gardner.

Administration estate of Anna Conant.

Guardian of Elizabeth Barnard Ray, daughter of Alexander.

Will Samuel C. Harris. Wife, Patience; children, Samuel and Frederic.

Will Lydia L. Cornell. Mother, Abigail Cornell, and sisters in Providence.

Will Joshua Coffin. Estate \$25,000. Daughter, Betsey Corey, wife of Thomas; uncle, Enoch Gardner. Brother, Gardner Coffin, had died leaving son, William Gardner Coffin, daughter, Peggy. Grandchildren, Charlotte G. Swain, Henry F. Coffin, Janet G. Morton, Lydia F. Coffin. Contested and a compromise.

Will Caleb Maey. Brothers, Silvanus and Obed; sister, Ruth Chase.

Will Charlotte Tyler, widow.

Will Rebecca Brock. Sister, Hannah Gardner.

1835. Administration estate Charles Hall.

Administration estate Judith Jones, widow.

Administration estate George Pierce.

Administration estate Eben Drew.

Administration estate Charles H. Coleman.

Administration estate Anna Spooner.

Administration estate Owen S. Cottle.

Administration estate Lydia Worth to Sally Worth.

Administration estate James Gibson to widow, Bethia.

Administration estate Philip Tyler.

Administration estate Constant Randall to widow, Elizabeth.

Administration estate George W. Osgood.

Administration estate William Slade.

Administration estate John Lewis.

Guardian of George W. Pierce, son of George and Phebe.

Guardian of Ellen Munroe Weeks, daughter of Susan Twede Costen.

Will Seth Clark. Wife, Nancy; child, Job C., grandchildren, Anna Clark and James L.

Will of Susan F. Pell, widow. Children, Susan Rebecca and Edward Howland Pell.

Will Lydia Worth. Brother, Henry; sister Sally's children, Sally and Nancy.

Will Mary Barney. Children, Edward G., Abby J. Chase, Judith B. Burnell, George F.

Will William Coffin. Children, Betsey had died leaving William C., Edward F., Lucy C. Starbuck, Fanny H. Cross, Winifred Starbuck, Lucy Swain, Rebecca Clapp; Harriet Pierce, Martha W. Jenks, wife of Samuel H.; Nancy Tallant, William.

Will Ammiel Joy. Wife, Sarah.

Will Abigail Wilson. Son Elihu had daughter Lydia; grandchildren, Hannah Coffin, Valentine Coffin, John Wilson, who had a son John; Susan Folger; children of Frederic Swain.

Will Jonathan Moores. Wife, Hannah; children, Susan Gardner, Hannah Gardner, wife of Henry; granddaughter, Betsey M. Coffin.



Administration estate of Thomas Hussey to widow, Phebe.

Administration estate of Dinah Dillingham.

Administration estate of Priam Brock to widow, Ann.

Guardian of Charles S. Hussey, son of Thomas and Phebe.

Guardian of Elizabeth B. Chadwick, daughter of John and Lydia.

Administration estate of Daniel McDaniel.

Administration estate of Stephen Coleman.

Administration estate of Obed Morselander.

Administration estate Love Delano.

Will John Francis gives all to Manuel Enos.

Will George Gardner. Wife, Deborah, daughter of Dinah Spooner.

Will Priscilla Coffin, daughter of Mary Bunker and wife of Shubael Coffin. Children, Lydia G. Swain, Mary B. Maey. Her husband had left daughter, Peggy Pinkham.

Will of Joseph Enos, brother of Manuel.

Will of Solomon Smith. Wife, Anna; children, Moses, Merebah Barnard, wife of George; Charles, Peter, Obed, Hiram and Isaae.

Will of James Ramsdell. Sons and daughters, John, Reuben, Alexander, Judith, Joseph, George, Frederick, Jedediah.

Will Sally Worth. Brother, Henry; sister, Janet; nephews, James F., Charles, Alexander C., Edward S., Obed, Francis M. Worth.

Will James Gwinn. Wife, Susan.

Will George Antonio, a Portuguese.

Heirs of David Chadwick were David, John, Benjamin, and Elizabeth Pinkham.

Administration estate of Paul Gardner to widow, Lydia.

Administration estate of Zacchariah Macy.

Administration estate of Obed Alley to widow, Susan.

Administration estate of Benjamin Baker.

Allowance to Lydia Burdick, widow of Christopher.

1836. Will Daniel Barney. Wife, Lydia; children, Sarah

Hazard, wife of James; Charles, Thomas, Mary, Hilburn, wife of Thomas; George C., Lydia Smith, wife of William P.

Will of Abishai Bunker. Wife, Merab; nephew, William A. Bunker of Hudson; kinsfolk, Moses, Priscilla and Miriam Coleman. Residue to Nantucket Meeting.

Guardian of Thomas Mitchell, son of George.

Administration estate William Bartlett to Emeline P. Bartlett.

Administration estate Gideon Coffin.

Administration estate George Mitchell.

Administration estate George Watson Summons, negro.

Administration estate Silvanus Ewer to Peter F. Ewer, \$120,000.

Administration estate Margaret Chase.

Administration estate Lydia Worth.

Administration estate Prince Coffin, 2nd.

Administration estate Thomas Brock to widow, Sarah.

Administration estate Charles E. Phillips to widow, Sarah.

Administration estate William H. Barnard to widow, Josiah Barnard.

Administration estate William Swain.

Administration estate Thomas Hilburn.

Guardian George H. Chase of his children, Joseph B. and Rowland C.

Guardian of Mary C. and Lydia C. Rawson, children of Ruel.

Will Uriah Folger. Estate \$73,000. Wife, Anna; children, Anna Swain, wife of Samuel B.; Sally Mitchell, wife of Joseph; Susan, Peter, Frederic, Judith Bunker, wife of Charles.

Guardian of Robert B. Hussey, son of Robert.

Guardian of Charles C., Barzillai and Henry Clay Ray, sons of Peleg and grandsons of Stephen Chase.

Guardian of James H. Coffin, son of Prince.

Guardian of Priscilla C. and Louisa J. Hilburn, children of Thomas.

Heirs of Hezekiah Bunker: Lydia B. Mitchell, William

Bunker, Sarah G. Huntington, Elizabeth E. Coffin, Eliza C. Bunker, Mary R. Folger. Susan M. Hussey, William B. Mitchell, Thomas F. Mitchell, Charles B. Mitchell, Charles C. Morris.

Guardian of Jeremiah Watson.

Guardian of Ann Calder, daughter of Charles.

Guardian of William Rice Worth, son of Charles.

Guardian of Emeline E., Ann C. and Leonora B. Bartlett. children of William.

Administration estate Alexander H. Gardner.

Administration estate Reuben Russell to Phebe Russell.

Administration estate John M. Russell to Susan P. Russell, and he left heirs Albert F. and Eliza B.

Administration estate William H. Cathcart to Avis R. Cathcart.

Administration Lydia Gardner, widow Paul.

Administration estate Sylvester Stout.

Administration estate John Waterman to Alice Waterman.

Will George Custis (Portuguese).

Will Benjamin Chadwick. Brother, David; sister Elizabeth Pinkham; Brother John had three children, Louisa Mitchell, Charles B. and Elizabeth Chadwick.

Will Benjamin Raymond. Wife, Abigail; children, Stephen, Frederic, Peter, Obed, Sophia Brown.

Will Ann Coffin, widow Thaddeus. Children, Nancy Folger, Elizabeth Defriez, who had died; Charlotte Myrick, Emeline P. Bartlett; grandchildren, Mary Coffin Gelston, Adeline Fanning.

1836. Administration estate of Antonio Caton to Sally Caton.

1837. Administration estate of John Wiederholt to Isaac Wiederholt.

1837. Administration estate of Latham Bunker.

1837. Administration estate of William Matthias.

1836. Will Benjamin Whippey. Wife, Eunice. Only child named was Sally.

1836. Heirs of Thomas Mitchell were James, Lydia G. and Thomas S. Mitchell.

1837. Will Joseph Weeks. Wife, Mary. Only child named was Hephzebah.

Will Benjamin Whippley. Wife, Huldah, who had a sister, Betsey Clisby.

Will Nicholas Meader. Wife, Rachel; children, Mary Waldo Colesworthy, wife of John; Anna Hussey, wife of Henry; Nathan, Samuel, Reuben, John. George had died, leaving George, Phebe, wife of Ward Prindal; Sarah, Harriet, Eliza L., Adeline. Thomas had died, leaving Edward, Nancy, Charlotte, Thomas, Samuel, Jonathan, Andrew, Caroline, Alexander. The widow Rachel had a sister, Betsey Allen.

Guardian of Susan and Frederick Folger, children of Uriah.

Guardian of John W. Bennett (colored).

Guardian of David Worth, son of Solon.

Administration estate of Barzillai Stetson.

Administration estate of James H. Barnard.

Administration estate of Elisha T. Davis.

Administration estate of Sarah Pinkham.

Administration estate of Alexander Russell.

Administration estate of Joseph Hussey.

Administration estate of Seth Coleman.

Will Ruth Thurston. Brothers and sisters, Joseph Cartwright, who had a son Joseph; Love Barnard, Lydia Mitchell, Phebe Starbuck; nephews, James H. Barnard, Frederick Starbuck and George Mitchell. Each of the last two had a son James.

Will David Allen. Hepsabeth Allen, "with whom I now live and call my wife." Children, David, Shubael, Tristram, Susanna Worth, Eliza Starbuck, Phebe B. Chase; granddaughter, Ann Maria Allen.

Will Thomas Smith. Daughter, Phebe Andrews; daughter-in-law, Clarinda Swain.

Will of John Cartwright. Wife, Mary; children, Ann, Mary Emer, Eliza Coffin, George B., Charles W., Sarah Hussey, Eliza Coffin; grandchildren, Mary A. Clark, Sarah

Gelston, Ann C. Gelston, George A. Emer, Mary Hussey, Lydia B. Hussey, Elizabeth Hussey.

Administration estate Jonathan Moores.

Administration estate Isaac Richardson.

Administration estate Zopher Hayden.

Administration estate Charles Hayden.

Administration estate David Coleman.

Administration estate Latham Paddock and Alexander C. Paddock.

Guardian of Henry W. Coleman.

Guardian of Benjamin J., Keziah and Mary Abby Coffin, children of John G.

Will of Thomas V. McCleave. Wife, Hope; children, Sally Catheart, Benjamin had died, leaving Thomas, Benjamin, George, William and Josiah; Lueretia Taber had died, leaving George Swain, William Taber, Charles, Benjamin, Edward and Emeline C. Taber; Polly Coffin had died, leaving Benjamin, Nancy, John C. and James B.

Will of Obed Holmes. Wife, Eliza B.

Estate of Thaddeus Coffin went to Henry, Thaddeus, William and George Defriez, children Henry I.; Charlotte Myrick, Emeline P. Bartlett, Nancy Folger, wife of Philip S.; Thaddeus Coffin and Mary C. Whittemore.

Will Phebe Pinkham. All to Betsy Cory.

Guardian of Albert F. and Eliza B. Russell, children of John M.

1838. Administration estate George Pinkham to Betsey Cory.

Administration estate George G. Mitchell. \$40,000.

Administration estate Barnabas Swain to widow, Avis.

Administration estate Abraham Hanson.

Administration estate Peter Barrett.

Administration estate William H. Wilson.

Administration estate William S. Ellis to Reuben Ellis.

Guardian William B. Ray, son of Nathaniel.

Guardian Maria, William C., Caroline, Henry P. Tallent, children of Eben W. Tallent.

Guardian George G., Charles E. and Alfred, Frederic H., Mary H., Elizabeth C. Mitchell, children of George G. Mitchell.

Will Reuben G. Worth. Wife, Mary.

Will of George W. Gardner. Wife, Sarah; children, Polly C. Hussey, George W. Gardner, Phebe Macy, wife of Silas; William H. Gardner.

Will Samuel Macy. Wife, Mary. Only child named Abraham.

Administration estate Elizabeth Coffin to Barna Coffin.

Administration estate Joseph R. Fisher.

Administration estate William B. Folger.

Will of Elizabeth Closby, widow of Lot. Sons, George and Alexander; granddaughter, Avis Macy.

Will Eben Sowle. Wife, Susan P.

Will Naomi Bigelow. Sisters, Winifred Cory, Elizabeth Folger; grandfather, Reuben Gardner.

Allowance to Deborah S. Folger, widow of William B.

Will of William Coffin. Wife, Elizabeth; children not named.

Will Priscilla Hammond. Niece, Peggy Fosdick, wife of Reuben.

Will of Job C. Clark. Wife, Lydia. Three children, only one named, Henry.

Guardian of Elizabeth Jane Clark, child of Obed.

Guardian of Ann Barney, child of Jacob.

Administration estate Archelaus Hammond.

Administration estate Miriam Jameson.

Administration estate Timothy R. Coffin.

Administration estate Phebe Coffin.

Administration estate Patrick Welch.

Administration estate Barnabas Seymour.

Administration estate William H. Gardner, \$52,000.

Administration estate Francis Worth.

Administration estate Edward F. Pinkham to widow, Eunice.

Administration estate Thomas Barney to widow, Sarah.

Guardian of Sarah F. Hussey, child of Alexander G.

Will of Peleg Macy. Wife, Sarah; children, Eunice Brewer, Peleg, Sarah Easton, John W., Gorham, Edward, Rebecca Knowles, Mary Watson, Seth, Charles, Josiah.

Will Latham Paddock. Wife, Sarah; children, Alexander C., Albert, Mary Hussey, wife of Samuel B.

Will David Coffin, 2nd. Wife, Meriab.

Will Mary Ewer. Children, Eliza Ann, Morselander, Abraham, Princee W. Ewer; grandchildren, David E., Eliza W., George W., Harriet G., Mary E. Case, Eliza Ann and Mary Morselander.

1839. Guardian of Edward Boden, son of Edward and Abigail.

Administration estate James Fitzgerald.

Administration estate William P. Harris to widow, Lydia R.

Administration estate Ira Brown.

Administration estate Sally Montcalm.

Administration estate Zaccheus Hussey.

Administration estate Abner Coffin to widow, Esther.

Administration estate Samuel Christian to widow, Lucretia.

Administration estate Charles G. Andrews to widow, Eunice.

Administration estate Thomas Hiller.

Administration estate John G. Closby.

Administration estate George W. Ewer to widow, Martha D.

Will Alexander Closby. Brother, George; aunt, Ruth Palmer; nieces, Avis and Emeline Macy, children of William G.

Guardian of Emeline, Benjamin and Edward Taber, sons of John.

Will of Grafton Gardner. Wife, Abigail; children, John M., Edward, Charles, Lurany Coffin, Rebecca Folger, Winifred Bunker, wife of Thomas; Mary Folger, wife of Robert; Ann Standest [Standish?].

Will Elizabeth Gardner. Sister, Lydia Worth; nieces, Lydia Fish and Mary Mitchell; kinsman, James Delano.

Will Mary Cartwright. Children, Sally Hussey, Eliza Coffin, Ann, Mary Ewer, Charles W., George B.; grandchildren, Margaret F. Ewer, Ann Eliza Coffin, Ferdinand C. Ewer.

Guardian of William Henry Ewer.

Guardian of Hepzibah Weeks, son of Joseph.

Guardian of William R. Worth, son of Charles A.

Will Daniel Coffin. Wife, Huldah; children, Mary, Barnabas, Eunice Hoeg, wife of Frederick; grandchildren, Lydia and James A. Hoeg, Adeline S. and Cromwell C. Coffin. "And I do enjoin it upon my children and grandchildren to live in peace."

Will of Matthew Barney. Wife not named. Son-in-law, Francis F. Hussey; children, Lydia and Abigail.

Will of Ann Chandler, widow Jacob. Children, Stockbridge and Samuel, Bathsheba Baldwin, widow of Elijah. Other legatees, Ruth A. Medbury, Sally S. Salisbury, Abby Justin, Benjamin Chandler.

Will Shubael Moores. Legatees were Phebe Coffin, widow of Clement; Shubael M. Winslow, Phebe Winslow, wife of Benjamin, had sons Benjamin, Shubael M., Charles F.; Elizabeth Coleman, wife of Benjamin.

Will of James Swain. Wife, Rebecca; children, Thomas, Samuel. James had died, leaving Charlotte, Andrew O., Susan, Edward, Rebecca B., James.

Will Mary Weeks. Children, Barzillai R., Charles, Jonathan R., Lydia Brown, Mary Sayer, Hephsibah.

1840. Guardianship Josiah Gardner.

Guardianship Lydia G. Mitchell, daughter of Thomas.

Guardianship Tristram, Lydia M. and Elizabeth Allen, children of David.

Guardianship Charles F., Gorham G. and David B. Andrews, sons of Charles G. and Eunice.

Guardianship Benjamin B. and Francis B. Smith, sons of Francis B.

Administration estate of Gideon Gardner.



Administration estate of Charles C. Morris.

Administration estate of David Allen to widow, Mary.

Administration estate of John W. Robinson to widow, Celia W.

Administration estate of Reuben R. Pinkham to widow, Lydia G.

Administration estate of Jacob Elisha.

Administration estate of Charles M. Folger.

Administration estate Libni Barnard to William F. Barnard.

Administration estate of Nathaniel Nason.

Administration estate Charles Abrahams to Elizabeth Abrahams.

Administration estate of Jara B. Wood to Caroline M. Wood.

Administration estate of Caleb Cushman.

Administration estate of Loring Averill, wife Betsey.

Administration estate of Seth S. Gibbs to widow, Keziah.

Administration estate of Judith Maey.

Administration estate of Hiram Smith, wife Hannah E.

Administration estate of Henry Riddell to widow, Peggy.

Will George Russell. Wife, Elizabeth; children not named.

Will of Barzillai Swain. Wife, Eunice.

Will Gideon Snow. Children, Lucinda A. Pease, William F., Seth G., George F., Henry, Pardon F., Angeline.

Will Gilbert Swain. Wife, Sarah H.; children, Samuel B., Edward H., Martha, Thomas, Sarah, Lydia, Francis, George H., Albert.

Will George Washington Gardner, colored.

Will Elizabeth Williams, widow. Daughter, Rosamond P. Seabury, wife of John; granddaughter, Theodtia Ann Degress.

Will Barzillai Morselander. Wife, Eliza Ann.

Will Alexander Pollard. Wife, Eliza; father, George; mother, Tamar.

Will John B. Davis. Wife, Mary.

Will William Watson. Wife, Mary; mother, Elizabeth Ennis; children, Elizabeth M., Sarah, James, William, Mary Jane, Rebecca.

Will Tristram M. Coffin. Wife, Mary F.

Will George Jay. Legatee, Sally F. Jay, wife of Captain Robert M. Jay.

Will of Daniel Chadwick. Wife, Lydia; children not named.

Will Samuel Burnell. Wife, Polly.

1841. Guardian Thomas O. Simpson, son of George R.

Guardian Eunice Jane Cottle, child of Laban and Jane B.

Guardian Ann C. and James L. Clark, children of Job C., deceased.

Guardian Frances C. Kelley, daughter of George.

Guardian John M. Silvia, son of John.

Administration estate Theodate Swain.

Administration estate Henry W. Coleman.

Administration estate Frederick Swain to Frederick C. Swain.

Administration estate Charles G. Barney.

Administration estate Thomas James.

Administration estate Samuel Swain to Joseph C. Swain.

Administration estate Abigail Swain, widow of Nathan.

Administration estate Laban Cottle to Shubael Cottle.

Administration estate Mary Abrahams.

Administration estate Jabez Cushman to Cynthia Cushman.

Administration estate Gurdon Pitcher.

Administration estate Benjamin W. Russell.

Administration estate Amiel S. Russell.

Administration estate James O. Osgood.

Administration estate Stephen Lawrence.

Administration estate George Kelley.

Administration estate Amaziah Gardner.

Administration estate David Swain to widow, Eliza M.

Administration estate John Middlehost.

Will Henry Barnard. Wife, Love.

Will Joseph McCleave. Wife, Sally; children, Robert, Joseph, Edward, Charles, William, Emeline.

Will Linzey Riddell. Wife, Peggy.

Will Abishai Paddock. Wife's sister, Juidth Swain; children, Thomas, Seth, Laban, John, Hezekiah; Aaron had died, leaving wife, Deborah, and children, Eliza Ann Hussey, David, Mary and Eunice Paddock.

Will Abel Norcross.

Will Job Coleman. Wife, Susan; brother, Roland; sister, Anna Swain, wife of Abraham. Other legatees, John W. Coleman, Harriet E. Lawrence, wife of Joseph B.; Oliver P. Winslow and his children, Roland, Judith and Oliver.

Will of Jonathan Swain. Wife, Margaret; children, Mary P., Sarah B., Polly Coffin, wife of Reuben; Charles B.

Will of Martin T. Morton. Wife, Mary; children, Charles C., Edward H., Mary Ann Starbuck, Lydia H. Allen, Andrew T., Charlotte F., Emiy A.

1842. Administration estate David Swain to Christopher Wyr.

Administration estate William M. Boston.

Administration estate Timothy G. Clapp to widow, Eliza W.

Administration estate Joseph King.

Administration estate Frederiek H. Quoin.

Administration estate Cyrus F. Crosby to widow, Harriet C.

Administration estate Josiah Dies.

Administration estate Coffin Pinkham.

Administration estate William S. Hussey to Reuben Hussey.

Administration estate John Hussey to Roland Hussey.

Administration estate Silas Coleman.

Administration estate Jared Gardiner.

Administration estate Reuben M. Swain.

Administration estate John Crimblish.

Administration estate Lawrence Marshall.

Guardian of Thomas Holmes, son of Robert.

Guardian of James F., George C. and Caroline Swain.

Guardian of Ann Maria, Adeline B., Davis M., Phebe E. and Henry H. Swain, children of David and Eliza Swain.

Guardian of John G. Green, son of Charles of Providence.

Will of Merab Bunker. Brother, Valentine Swain; sister, Lydia Hussey, widow of David; niece, Lydia Munroe, wife of John.

Will of Thomas Davenport. Wife, Hannah.

Will of Isaac Coffin. Wife, Margaret; children not named; grandchild, Isaac Coffin Jenks.

Will of Thaddeus Folger. Wife, Anna; children, William H., Lucy, Rebecea Upham, Betsey Jenkins, Lydia, Sally, Benjamin F.

Will Thaddeus Coleman. Legatees. George Coleman, son of David; Susan Barney, wife of Joseph; Lydia Rand, Moses Coleman, wife of Francis.

Will of Priscilla Coffin. Sister, Susan Coffin.

Will of Jeremiah Brown, colored. Wife, Charlotte D.; mother, Sarah Tasker.

Will Isaac M. Wiedenhold. Wife, Phebe T.; children, Francis, Lydia B.

Will Elizabeth Jay. To Monthly Meeting \$200.

Will George Worth. Brother, David; children, Maria, Barzillai, Sarah Harlow. Elizabeth Worth, wife of David G.

1843. Will Paul Worth. Grandchildren, Mary, Phebe W., Elizabeth W., Paul W. and John W. Clisby.

Will Hannah Davenport, widow. Brother, Benjamin Robinson; niece, Phebe Ann Edwards.

Will Daniel Allen. Children, Eliza Calder, George, Phebe Maey.

Will of Samuel Jay. Wife, Betsey; children, Samuel C., Susan C. and Elizabeth B.

Will of Gilbert Coffin. Wife, Phebe; children, Mary B. Macy, wife of Thomas M.; Paul, Thomas, Obed. Estate \$76,000.

Administration estate Jemima Gardner.

Administration estate Peter Chase to Fred A. Chase.

Administration estate Eliza Bailey.

Administration estate Janet Brock.

Administration estate Eliza Ann Gardner.

Administration estate Philander Coffin to widow, Mary.

Administration estate James H. Fassett, whose wife was Susan.

Administration estate Alexander Perry.

Administration estate Henry Bunker.

Administration estate James Thompson.

Administration estate Obed Ray.

Administration estate Barker Burnell.

Administration estate Joshua Gruber.

Administration estate Peter Myrick.

Administration estate Henry Wilson.

Administration estate Daniel Chase.

Administration estate Mary Myrick.

Administration estate William Brown.

Administration estate Thomas M. Coffin.

Guardian of Sarah H. Gardner, daughter of Albert C.

Guardian of Margaret C. Perry, daughter of Alexander.

Guardian of Stella L. Hiller, daughter of Thomas.

Guardian of John A. and Frederick Howland Smith, children of Casandra and Thomas.

Allowance to Nancy Folger, widow of Peleg S.

Allowance to Nancy Pitman, widow of Joshua.

Allowance to Dinah Thompson, widow of James.

1844. Administration estate of William Coffin.

Administration estate of Mary Coleman, widow of Simeon.

Administration estate of William M. Russell to B. Frank Russell.

Administration estate of Roland Pollard to widow, Charlotte.

Administration estate of Charles Carson to wife, Susan W.

Administration estate of Phebe Easton.

Administration estate of Elizabeth Chase.

Administration estate of Alexander Swain to widow, Elizabeth C.

Administration estate of Theodore L. Doughty.

Administration estate of Samuel H. Pitman to Rebecca B. Pitman.

Administration estate of Frederick W. Gardner.

Administration estate of Micajah Gardner.

Administration estate of Richard Ennis.

Administration estate of Charles H. Gardner.

Administration estate of Daniel Jones.

Administration estate of Thomas Cross to widow, Frances H.

Guardian of Ellen H., Francis, Rebecca C., Charles R., Lonisia A., William Henry, James A., children of Joshua Gruber.

Will of Seth Coffin. Wife, Lydia; children not named.

Will of Seth Pinkham. Wife, Mary A.; children, Harriet B., Helen M., Seth, Rebecca C., Mitchell, Mary B., Elizabeth C. Crosby, Malvina F.

Guardian of Harriet G., Charles D., Judith B. Pinkham, children of Reuben R. and Lydia G.

Will Lydia C. Macy. Brothers, Nathaniel A. and William A. Borden.

Will William H. Brock. Wife, Lydia C.; mother, Watey Brock; nephew, Peter Brock, son of Priam.

Will Valina Holmes. Daughter, Lydia Sylvia; grandson, William Parsons.

Guardian of Elizabeth Ann, Mary S., George F., Merah J., Hepsabeth C. and Albert Ray, children of Obed Ray, Jr.

Will Susan Coffin. Sister, Elizabeth Long, wife of Abraham.

Will of Manuel Valendown.

Guardian of Mary Ellen and Nancy Wardwell Stoddard, children of George.

Will of Obed Macy. Sons, Thomas, Reuben and Peter; son-in-law, David Mitchell. Son Daniel had died leaving widow, Alice. Grandchildren, Albert C., Charles E., Mary P., Melvin B., Eliza, Harriet M., Mary Barnard, Lydia, William C.

Will of Mary Fisher. Children, Mary Ann Swain, wife of Seth M.; Elisha, Hannah Goodrich, wife of James T.

1845. Guardian of Benjamin F., Charles F., Lydia M., Hannah M., William B., Alice E., children of Seth and Lydia Coffin.

Guardian of Tristram C., Lydia M., Elizabeth Allen, children of David.

Guardian of William C. Paddock.

Administration estate of Charles F. Pinkham.

Administration estate of Benjamin McCleave to wife, Rebecca A.

Administration estate of William Gurrell.

Administration estate of Joseph Warren.

Administration estate of Benjamin R. Hussey to widow, Rebecca S.

Administration estate of Albert W. Starbuck to widow, Mary Ann.

Administration estate of Hepsabeth Allen.

Administration estate of Paul Folger to widow, Susan.

Administration estate of Mary Swain, widow Noah.

Administration estate of Francis Furtado.

Administration estate of Ruel Rawson, to Mercy Rawson.

Administration estate of Thomas Macklin.

Administration estate of Jack Hinckley.

Will of Sarah A. Coffin. Sisters, Susan W. Archibald, Jemima Coffin; brother, John Archibald.

Will Nathaniel Atwood. Children, George, Mary G. Perry and Eliza.

Will of Obed Russell. Wife, Judith; son, William H.

Will Silvanus Coffin. Daughter, Eliza Nicholson, wife of John B.

Will Absolom Coffin. Wife, Mary; children, Emeline and Nathaniel F.

Will Reuben Ray. Children, Alexander, Reuben and George C.

Will J. D. Snow. Mother, Elizabeth; wife, Dorothea G.

## CORRECTIONS.

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- Bethuel Pinkham for Thuel, page 369.  
 Mary Nason for Mason, page 304.  
 Elizabeth Bunker for Mary, page 306.  
 Thomas Carr for Carver, page 312.  
 Janet Brock for James, page 316.  
 Job Bunker for John, page 320.  
 Jedidah Folger for Judith, page 324.  
 Alexander Gordon for Gardner, page 325.  
 James Coffin for Joseph, page 327.  
 Bethia Swain for Bertha, page 330.  
 David Barnard for Daniel, page 332.  
 Peleg Bunker for Peter, page 333.  
 Clasby for Crosby, pages 310, 334.  
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 Lydia Easton for Eaton, page 390.  
 Lydia Eldredge for Eldred, page 394.

#### ADDITIONS.

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1758. Joseph Marshall, schoolmaster. administrator estate Paul Pease.

Hannah and Abigail, children of George Gardner, page 343.

After first paragraph add words "children of William Folger." page 378.

Anna Joy mentioned in will of John Way, page 322.

1770. Will John Mooney.

1759. Will Thomas Macy. Wife, Deborah; children, Joseph, Robert, Francis, Nathaniel, Deborah, Love Rotch, Lydia Coleman, Elizabeth Barnard, Anna Worth, Hepsabeth Davis.



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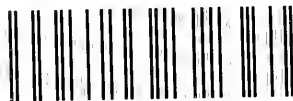
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